

# **IDENTIFICATION**

Type Policy field	Case (plan, program, project etc.) Method / Tool Organisation Legal framework Other Urban planning Mobility Tourism Other		Stakeholders involved Timeline	Public institutions Private sector Civil society organisa Knowledge institutio Public or grassroots o Other Start date End date	ins	x x 
Spatial level	National Regional Local	×		On going Completed Limited Repeated overtime		x x





#### **Purpose and context**

RoBulUs aimed to improve the involvement of young people in the planning and implementation of the Cohesion policy 2021-2027 at the regional and local level in Bulgaria and Romania focusing on the Romania-Bulgaria Cross-border Cooperation Programme. The initiative was implemented in 2021 as an information measure about the Support for citizen engagement in the implementation of cohesion policy of the DG REGIO. It was presented as a best practice in a Border Focal Point Network Debate of the European Commission in 2022.

#### **Problems and challenges**

## **Organizing, Supporting and Funding Entities**

The main output of the initiative was that RoBulUS application has been offering a set of functionalities about civic engagement in the public discussions of integrated territorial development plans of municipalities, of the Operational Programmes for the period 2021-2027 and the RO-BG CBC Programme. In addition, the application has the functionality to link to the open calls providing support to civic initiatives in Bulgaria and Romania.

**Process (including participant recruitment/selection) and Interaction/Participation (including methods/tools) used** It raised awareness and drive interest in the utilisation of legal opportunities for participation in decision-making processes on the planning and implementation of the Operational Programmes among young people and developed pilot tools to support the engagement of young citizens in the design and future implementation of the RO-BG CBC Programme in their communities and regions

# **Outcomes, Effects and Lessons Learned**

The initiative was implemented within 12 months and resulted in a practical Outline of the Mechanisms through which the citizens can engage in the design and future implementation of the Operational programmes at the regional and local level in Bulgaria and Romania; online Mobile App for raising young people's knowledge of the Cohesion Policy and RO-BG CBC Programme 2021-27 and their new priorities; an online Step-by-step guide for participating in the decision-making process at the regional and local level regarding the planning and future implementation of the RO-BG CBC Programme 2021-27; experimental workshops and a final conference, presenting opportunities for citizen participation and best achievements in the design and implementation of the RO-BG CBC Programme 2014-20.

## **Bibliography**

Project website: https://robulus.eu/

