

# Virovitica Public Library Transformation: *The Path to a Sustainable Library*



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National Institute  
Czech Republic  
National Library  
of the Czech Republic

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VIROVITICA  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY  
CROATIA



GRADSKA  
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ČITAONICA  
VIROVITICA



- Population of 20.000 the city of Virovitica is the county seat of Virovitica - Podravina
- Founded in 1947 - organized reading tradition since 1874
- County library with professional responsibility for 4 public and 19 school libraries
- In current building since 2007, covers 1020 sqm
- 107.000 volumes
- 11.500 members of which 4.500 active users
- 19 employees of which 17 librarians
- 12-hour opening hours
- Mobile library service

Basic information





Co-funded by the European Union

# Horn for a Book

38 % of the County was NOT covered by the public library services

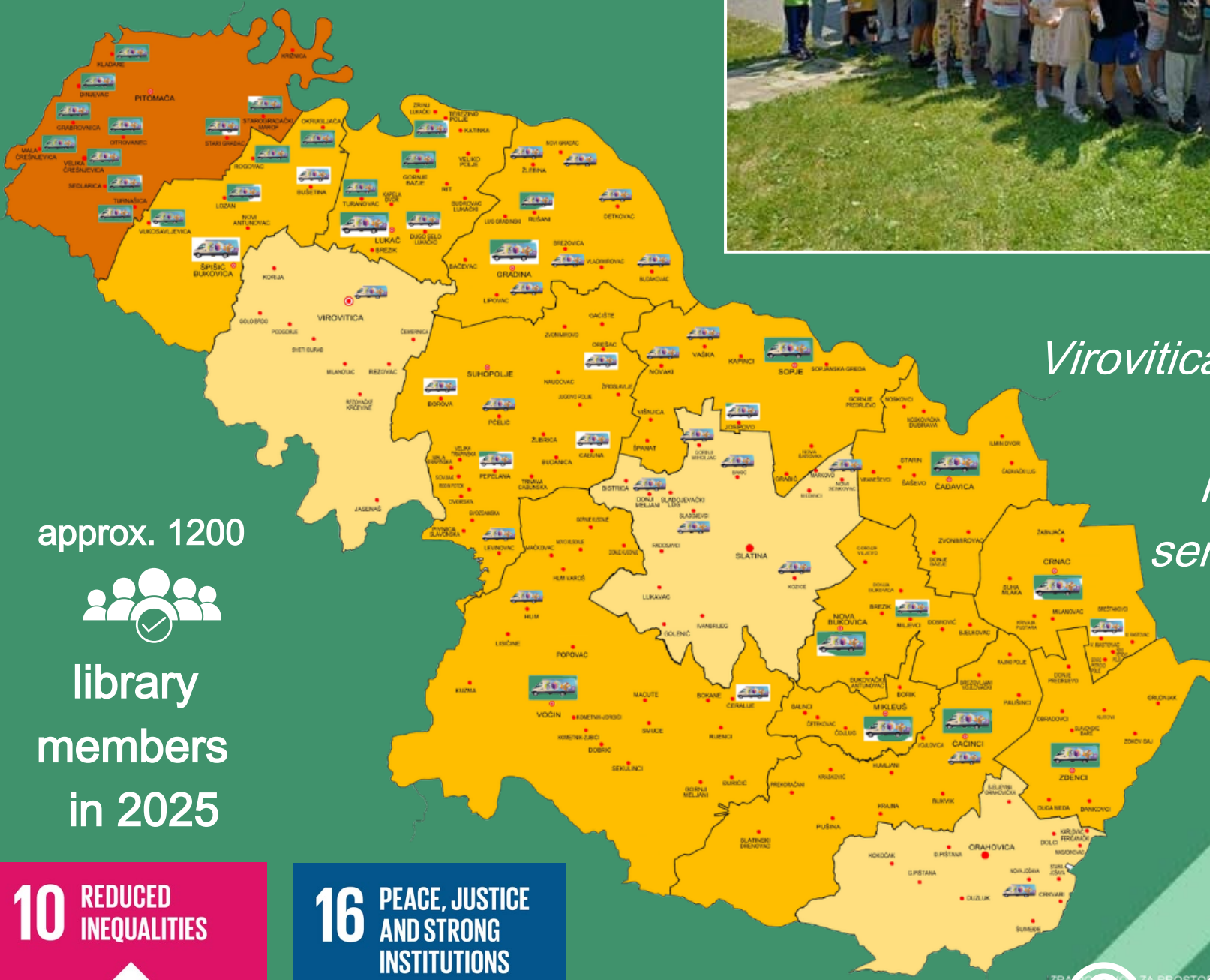


2024 km<sup>2</sup>  
3 cities

13 municipalities  
188 settlements



- 16 Sept 2021 – 15 Sept 2023
- Total budget: €334,955.41 – 85% ESF
- General goal: Increase social inclusion through reading literacy
- Main idea: Establishment of a **Mobile Library Service** to improve access in rural areas



*Virovitica - Podravina County Mobile library service network in 2025*



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approx. 1200 library members in 2025



61 library service stops in 2025

# Erasmus+



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



- Erasmus+ project KA 122: Let's read, too! (2023/2024)

The goal: to encourage reading and develop awareness of reading among adult users, especially reading within reading clubs

- Erasmus+ project KA 153: Library – incubator for strengthening the capacities and creative ideas of young people (2025)

The goal: to develop the competencies of library staff working with young people in the field of reading

- Erasmus accreditation KA 121 (2025/2027)

The goals:

1. to encourage citizens to be active in the community
2. promoting sustainability and environmental awareness in the community.

# Sustainable programs after Erasmus+ projects

Green programs



Adult reading clubs

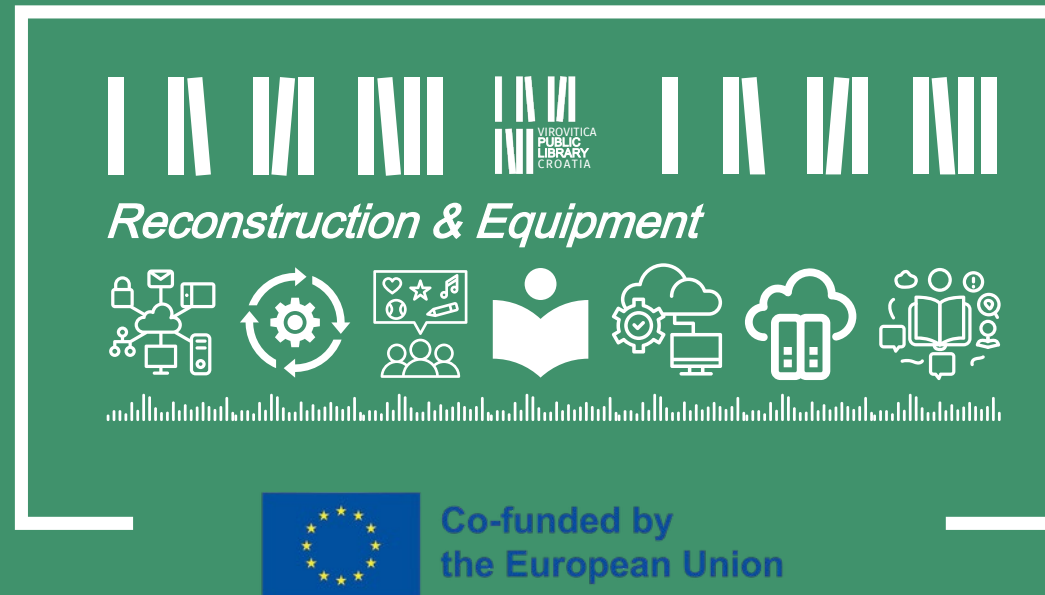


Volunteer program

Children and Teen reading clubs

65+ program

# Reconstruction and Equipment of Virovitica Public Library



- EU Fund: European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- Total project value: €1,191,054.05 (85% ERDF)
- Implementation period: 24 months (2025–2026)
- Goal: Transform the library into a smart, sustainable and inclusive community hub

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# Vision: A smart, green and resilient public library – a modern space for learning, community life and sustainable development



## Specific goals:

- Accessibility for all
- Modernisation and expansion of library spaces
- Automation through RFID technology
- Provide 24/7 return service
- Upgrade digital services and smart infrastructure
- Strengthen community engagement through educational and inclusive programmes
- Phased implementation of the *Open library concept*
- Target: 80% energy sustainability of the building using photovoltaic power plant and heat pumps



# Thank you for your attention !

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