CONVOY OF HOPE



COUNTRY CAPSULE

2024 Bulgaria

2024

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM NUMBERS

1,132 CHILDREN'S FEEDING PARTICIPANTS

618 WOMEN & GIRLS EMPOWERED

360 AGRICULTURE PARTICIPANTS

19 PROGRAM CENTERS

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Since joining the European Union in 2007, the Bulgarian emigration rate has grown tremendously after years of consistent gaps in wages, income, and welfare. Negative natural population growth exacerbated this depopulation, which is prominent in rural areas throughout the country.[1] Additionally, roughly 750,000 Roma live in Bulgaria, equating to 10.3% of the population.[2] During the COVID-19 pandemic, many Roma neighborhoods were shut off from the rest of society to mitigate the spread of the virus. This caused a rise in cases and deaths among these communities, and stunted normal daily living.[3] Convoy of Hope began working in Bulgarian communities in 2007. In 2020, Convoy started both Agriculture and Women's Empowerment programming in Bulgaria and has since implemented Children's Feeding.

Country Fast Facts

10.3%[2]
Population that is Roma

6.4 million[4]
Population

24th[5]
Ranking of countries most affected by natural disasters from 1993-2022

22.1%[6]
Population living below the poverty line

Your investment of $15,000 will ensure that 125 children are given a nutritious meal every school day.

Your investment of $25,000 will ensure that 25 women are empowered to start their own businesses.

Your investment of $34,960 will ensure that 304 farmers are trained and equipped to provide food for their families and communities.

Your investment of $42,840 will ensure that 7 program centers are able to provide a nutritious meal for every student every school day.

[1]World Bank. "Migration in Bulgaria: Current Challenges and Opportunities." (2021) https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/36800?show=full
[2]European Commission. "Bulgaria." (2024) https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/combatting-discrimination/roma-eu/roma-equality-inclusion-and-participation-eu-country/bulgaria_en
[3]The New York Times. "Europe's Roma already faced discrimination. The pandemic made it worse." (2020, July) https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/06/world/europe/coronavirus-roma-bulgaria.html
[4]The World Bank. "The World Bank in Bulgaria." (2024, October) https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/bulgaria/overview
[5]Germanwatch. "Climate Risk Index 2025." (2025, February) https://www.germanwatch.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/Climate%20Risk%20Index%202025.pdf
[6]World Bank Group. "Poverty & Equity Brief: Bulgaria." (2023, April) https://databankfiles.worldbank.org/public/ddpext_download/poverty/987B9C90-CB9F-4D93-AE8C-750588BF00QA/current/Global_POVEQ_BGR.pdf