

Digital STARs

Digital Skills Training of All Romanians

THE CHALLENGE

Digital Skills Gap: Romania ranks last in the EU for digital skills – only 28% of Romanians have basic digital abilities. This gap is especially stark in rural and marginalized communities, leaving many citizens behind in the digital age.

Digital STARs RAS is a program designed to give 100,000 Romanians the basic digital skills they need to thrive in today's world. For World Bank Romania, this is about building resilience, creating opportunities, and making sure no one is left behind.



Happy citizens, happy
neighborhoods!

Skilled citizens, developed
neighborhoods!

INNOVATIVE APPROACH

- **Public Libraries as Digital Hubs:** Turning local libraries into accessible digital learning centers with high-speed internet, computers, and trained librarians as mentors. These community hubs bring digital training to citizens' doorsteps.
- **Hybrid Learning Model:** 60-hour blended course that combines online modules with in-person sessions. This flexible approach lets learners practice digital skills both virtually and face-to-face, fitting training into everyday life.
- **Life-Centered Curriculum:** Three learning paths – **Personal Life, Civic Life, and Professional Life** – ensure **skills are applied at home, in neighborhoods, and at work**. From using smartphones to spotting fake news, training focuses on real-life needs.
- **DigCompRo Framework:** Aligned with Romania's new DigCompRo (adapted from the EU's DigComp 2.2 framework) for comprehensive digital competencies. This national standard covers **6 key areas and 23 competences**, guiding citizens from no knowledge to basic digital skills (e.g. safe technology use, digital entrepreneurship).

IMPACT & AMBITION

Train 100,000 citizens by 2026, empower communities, modernize libraries, and scale Romania's model for inclusive digital transformation globally.

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