



Example 11 **Transformation into an Accessible Public Transport System**

City (country) **Bucharest (Romania)**

good practice for people with ...	kind of vehicle	kind of measure/approach
... motor impairment	city bus tram	engineering/technology approach financial support measure

Project description

RATB (Regia Autonoma de Transport Bucuresti), the largest transport operator of buses, trolleybuses and trams in Romania, have made it their task to improve the accessibility of public transport in Bucharest, the sixth largest city in the European Union. One example of the backlog in this field is, that by 2004 only two percent of the bus fleets in Bucharest were accessible for people with reduced mobility which contributes to the social exclusion of disabled people. RATB worked together with the Municipality of Bucharest, which financed the purchase of 500 low-floor buses and 100 low-floor trolley buses with special facilities to provide a better access for people with reduced mobility. In addition, RATB modernised two Ikarus buses. Because of the positive user response the Municipality decided to purchase 500 more of these buses. By 2008 the whole bus fleet is expected to be accessible.

Concerning trams, the infrastructure has been improved; at the moment 30% of the tram stops are accessible. The Municipality will purchase 100 low-floor trams in the future. The interchange between different transport modes is also accessible, because street infrastructure is being modernised by the Bucharest Municipality, too. In addition, the Municipality plans to modernise and improve trams and trolleybuses, to purchase elevators for people with motor impairments, to install mobile platforms for the underground train, and to improve the infrastructure of public transport in Bucharest.

Source:

Eclipse: Law inspires Design for All Solution, http://www.eclipse-eu.net/Images/Deliverables/European_Practice_Review.pdf, p. 47 (20/10/2007)