



# Implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan for inclusion of Roma and Ashkali communities in Kosovo\* 2017-2021

**For 2017**



# Mechanisms for implementing, monitoring and coordinating the strategy and action plan

- Office for Good Governance / Prime Minister's Office has a mandate to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan
- Based on the mandate it has created two mechanisms at central and local level
- the central level in the ministry we have set the contact points
- at the local level we have established the Municipal Action Committee
- Also, municipalities have drafted Action Plans at the local level

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- ▶ The Office of the Prime Minister in order to improve the situation of the Egyptian community has been drafted and implemented the project Improving socio-economic conditions of the Egyptian community. The project was implemented in March and April in the amount of 120,000 euros. In the first phase it is to soften the hard economic socioeconomic situation, especially for those families that are under severe conditions, while facing the winter. In the second phase, the difficult situation will be alleviated through the support of self-employment.

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- The Office for Good Governance / Office of the Prime Minister, according to its coordination and monitoring mandate, has drafted the first report on the implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan for Roma and Ashkali communities in Kosovo\* 2017-2021, where it was sent to all institutions Kosovo and non-governmental and international organizations in June 2018.

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- The Office for Good Governance / Office of the Prime Minister in cooperation with the European Commission Office has organized a seminar on "Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Communities - Current Situation and After 2015 - Policies and Commitments of the Government of Kosovo" of Kosovo and Roma Policy Coordinator - DG NEAR
  - As a result of the seminar, the conclusions were drawn up, where Kosovo\* institutions have committed themselves to their implementation



# sectoral achievements

- Based on the strategy and action plan there are four sectors in which the report is prepared
- Education,
- employment and social welfare,
- health and
- housing



# Education

- **125** children of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian enrolment in public pre-primary education institutions
- children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children who dropped out of school decreased from **226** in 2015/2016 to **119 students** in the 2016/2017 school year
- Scholarships for high-school students of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities - allocated **500 scholarships** for students in grades (10, 11, 12) The scholarship is divided into several instalments, amounting in total to EUR **300 per student**

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- **5815 pupils** under mandatory education (grades 1-9) of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities have been supplied with textbooks and learning materials for the school year **2016/2017**
  - **Supplementary lessons for repatriated children** are organized in **10 municipalities** and have benefited **122 children** from Ashkali and Egyptian Roma communities
  - **38 students** of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities have applied for scholarships during 2016 - The number of beneficiaries is small compared to the plan, since **only 7 students** have fulfilled the criteria as stipulated in the Administrative Instruction No. 12/2015 for Scholarship Allocation

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- **6276 Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian pupils attend school** at all levels of school during the academic year 2016/2017
  - Organizing supplementary learning classes for Roma language, containing elements of Roma culture and history, as a facultative subject in **4 schools of Prizren Municipality** - • **83 Roma pupils** have attended in their supplementary classes during 2017
  - MEST has organized roundtable discussion on awareness and importance of school enrollment for girls from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities -**180 participants from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities** from all over Kosovo attended in this event



# employment and social welfare

- ▶ According to records, **5,279 persons were registered as jobseekers** by the end of 2017 from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities - **Registered as new jobseekers** from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities **during 2017 were 649 persons**
- ▶ On-the-job training was implemented in cooperation with UNDP - 37 members of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities have acquired job training during 2017.

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- Inclusion in temporary employment of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities' members through public works -- **26 members of the Roma**, Ashkali and Egyptian communities are employed in seasonal work -whereas the payment of employees **for 4-6 months of** engagement was covered by MLSW.
  - **226 jobseekers** from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities have been trained during 2017. According to data, members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities have been involved in training for 20 occupations out 30 in total
  - **110 members** of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities have benefited from employment mediation
  - **2,591 families** from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities have benefited from this scheme during 2017

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- Each year the Government has allocated a fund of EUR 4.5 million to subsidize a portion of electricity utilized by users (families) under the Social Assistance Scheme. **2,384 families** from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities benefited from electricity debt writ-off during 2017
  - **21 families** from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities benefited from this Scheme during 2017; for to extraordinary circumstances, such as funeral ceremonies for family members, damage of the household caused by fire, earthquake and flood, etc.
  - Based on the data of the Social Services Database, **16 victims** of domestic violence from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities have been treated during 2017
  - **688 returnees** from Roma and Ashkali and Egyptian communities were provided transportation and 115 returned persons were offered temporary accommodation



# HEALTH

- The University Clinical Center of Kosovo\* (UCCK) through mobile mammography has done 623 screening of breast cancer, 102 visits for Roma, Ashkali, Egyptian community
- In total 1,950 Roma, Ashkali, Egyptian benefited from at home visits with mobile teams
- 30 educational sessions by health personnel were held in Gjakova for Roma, Ashkali, Egyptian communities supported by NGO AHED in cooperation with AQH , focused in the following topics:
  - diarrha
  - hypertension and
  - diabet.

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- **12,000 children** from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities have been vaccinated during 2017. According to MoH the number is higher because of during 2017 there was malaises disease and MoH took emergency measures to vaccine population.
  - **42 awareness** campaigns for immunization were held by Family Health Center during 2017
  - During 2016, MHC in Mitrovica, namely the Lead Unit has measured the blood lead levels for **67 patients** in the municipality of Mitrovica
  - **6 persons** from Roma Ashkali and Egyptian communities were examined with over-normal values of blood lead and these persons were treated with regular therapy and controls



# HOUSING

- ▶ The Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP) has identified **771 roma ashkali and Egyptian families** that do not have adequate housing conditions.
- ▶ Families lacking adequate housing conditions have been identified by designing three-year residential programs in **24 municipalities**. Out of them, 16 municipalities have been approved their programs, whereas 8 are still in the approving process
- ▶ MESP jointly with the NGO Development Together through a project funded by the European Commission, have designed the social housing database at central and local level
- ▶ In total **84 houses** of Roma, ashkali and egyptian communities are **re-constructed (42)** and **renovated (42)** in 2017

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- The rental accommodation of **331 returning families** of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were paid for a 12-month period
  - **33 houses** were furnished and provided with inventory for Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian families

# Budget breakdown for priority areas

**Total budget spent for EDUCATION in 2017**

284,735 EUR

**Total budget spent for EMPLOYMENT in 2017**

3,481,869 EUR

□ The total is calculated, it is not the budget stated in the strategy

**Total budget spent for HOUSING in 2017**

679,783 EUR

**Total budget spent for HEALTH in 2017**

180,694 EUR

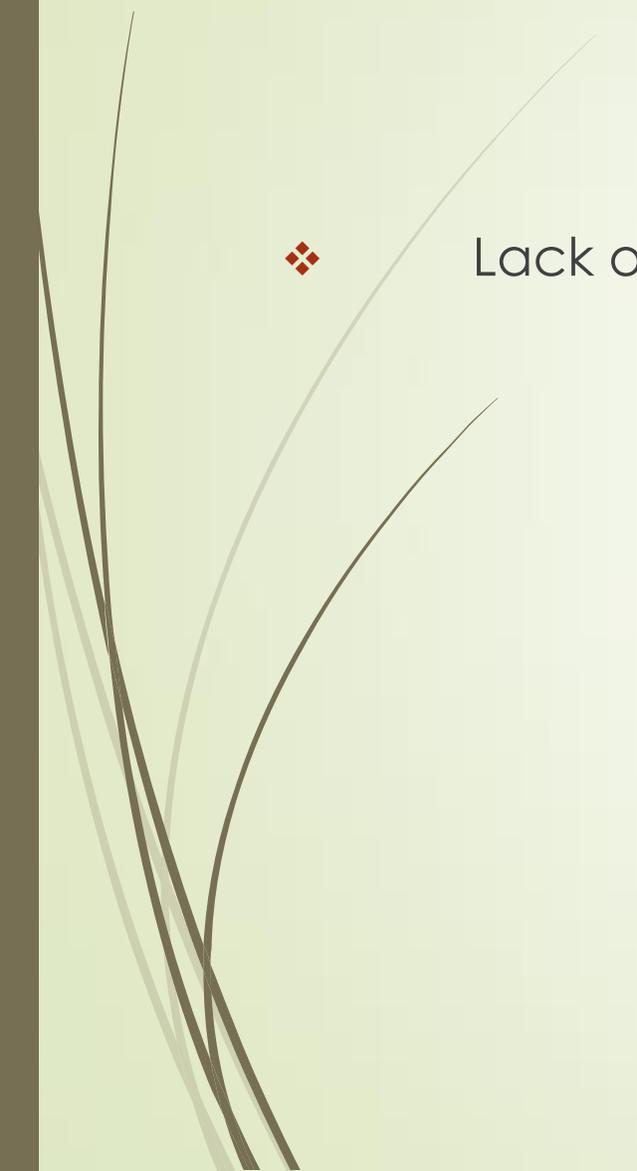
**Total budget spent for OTHER in 2017**



# Challenges and Recommendation EDUCATION



Lack of Budget

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# Employment



- 1. No donor has been engaged in support of the implementation of ethnically-based research activities.
- 2. Budget constraints are still a challenge for this sector; more efforts must be made to overcome this problem.



# HEALTH

- ▶ Lack of Budget
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# HOUSING

- ▶ Failure to approve the draft Law on Social Housing, which has a financial implication and should be approved by the Ministry of Finance