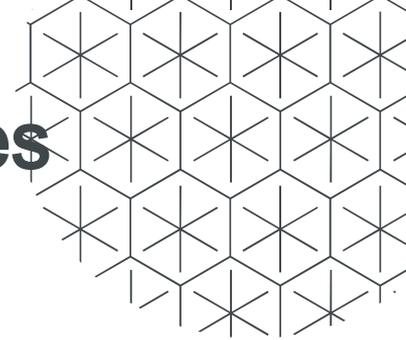




ROMA
EDUCATION FUND
Invest | Educate | Engage

Closing the gap in educational outcomes between
Roma and non-Roma.

Challenges on Roma communities during Covid-19

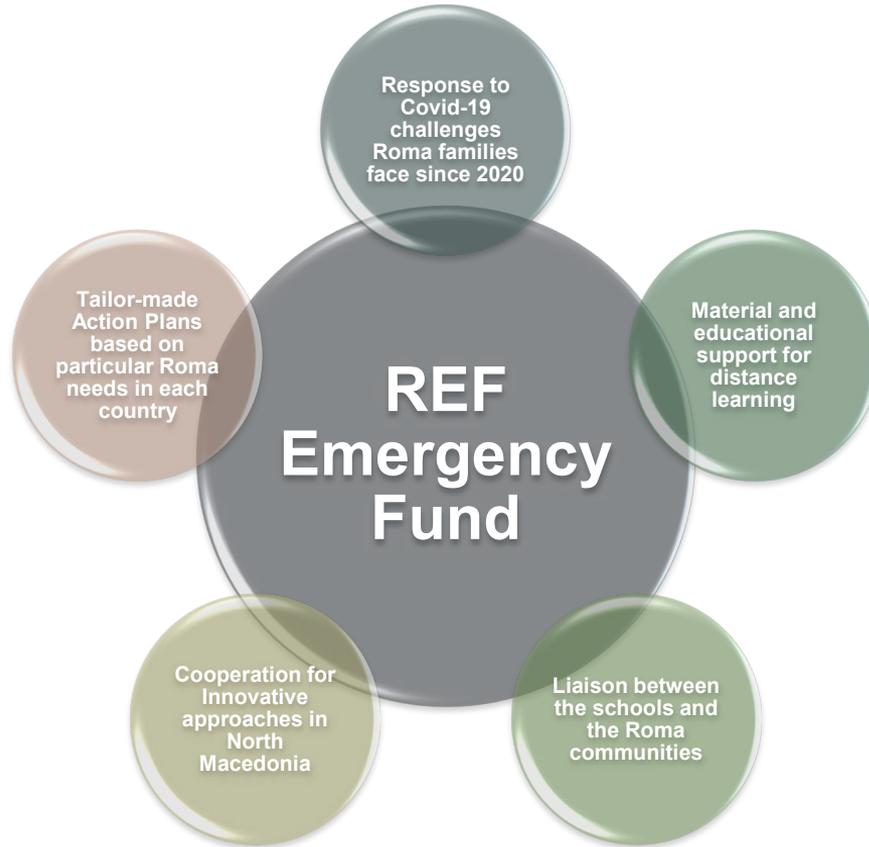


- Roma people disproportionately affected by Covid-19 measures implemented across European countries.
- Challenges found with proper housing, encouraging and supportive home environment, language assistance, internet access, technical device and electricity as minimum conditions for distance learning of all children.
- Challenges as feedback from beneficiaries of our support-during-Covid projects are parents' capacity and pedagogical knowledge in supporting distance learning process.
- Socio-economic conditions and exclusion.

REF Covid-19 Emergency Fund

Main challenges specific to educational level

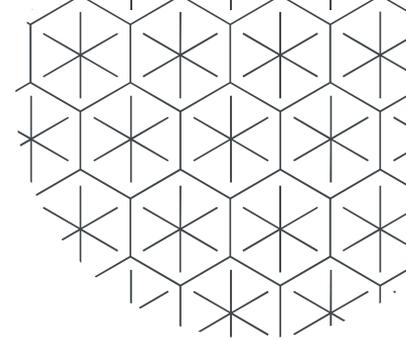
1. **Early childhood education:** Nothing available for remote learning. Children receive no guided education.
2. **Primary:** High reliance on parental assistance and guidance in remote learning. High reliance on good and consistent communication with teachers through phone and other modes of communication. Lack of interaction with teachers in countries where children is organized through TV channels. Difficulty of younger students to adjust to online education.
3. **Secondary:** Lack of interactions with the teachers, curriculum, and lessons students find challenging to grasp material.
4. **Tertiary:** Limited internet connection and technology to participate in online lessons.



REF Emergency Fund Interventions

1. Advocating for inclusion of vulnerable Roma communities in mainstream support provided by national and local governments.
2. Humanitarian aid in form of food and hygienic packages and disinfection.
3. Providing educational toys and materials to families and children to assist their development.
4. Have mediators liaison with the community and the school and provide support to parents.
5. Assistance in kindergarten primary, secondary and university enrolment.
6. Providing smart devices with SIM cards for internet access.
7. Provision of tunnels for disinfection and terminals for measuring temperature in kindergartens and schools.
8. Online or in-person mentoring and tutoring classes.

REF Emergency Fund Results



1. Total Emergency Fund: 568.627 EUR
2. 2.214 Roma students from primary, secondary, and tertiary education provided with smart devices and internet access to be able to follow the distance learning
3. 5.660 Roma students in primary, secondary and tertiary education provided with Mentoring and Tutoring support
4. 1.305 families of children in Early Childhood Development schemes (ECD) have been provided with educational materials and toys through REF Toy Library programs.
5. 1.072 families have received assistance in enrolment of their children to ECD, primary, secondary and tertiary education, either with the help of mediators or through Matura exam preparations with tutors for the needed subject.

Focus on future interventions

- Cooperation with schools and mapping of the needs of the communities.
- Parents' continuous engagement in the educational process of their children with instructions and trainings on learning methods by educational institutions.
- Students' and mediators' support to parents during online learning.
- Online learning policies in line with the principle of equality, inclusivity and sensitivity.
- Flexible educational approaches to learning and governments' efficiency in making sure no child is left behind.
- National advocacy coalition in all countries of operation specifically for the pandemic, tackling anti-gypsyism during crisis period.
- Proposing government policies on teacher training and online teaching methodologies sensitized to the needs of Roma students.
- Quality-control mechanisms in place.

Thank you for your attention!

Redjepali Chupi, Mr.
Roma Education Fund Director
rchupi@romaeducationfund.org
www.romaeducationfund.org

