



ROMA INTEGRATION 2020

Regional Cooperation Council

REGIONAL CONFERENCE
FILLING IN THE BUDGET GAPS IN ROMA INTEGRATION POLICIES

Tirana, November 10, 2017.

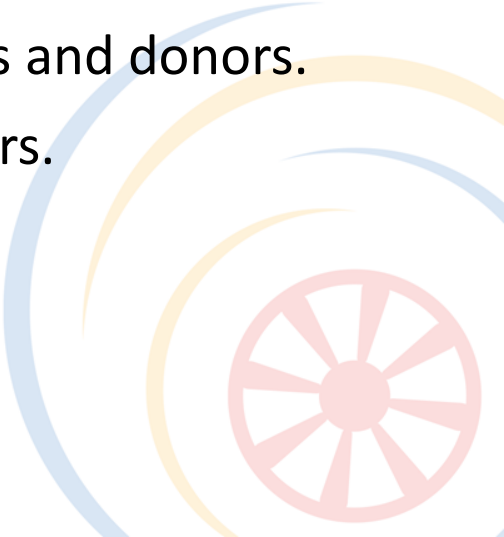


Purpose and objectives of the analysis and the conference

Premise:

1. Decent living conditions;
2. Employed people can provide for decent life of their families;

Purpose:

1. To identify common objectives, measures and activities.
 2. To understand better the priorities of governments and donors.
 3. To initiate dialogue among governments and donors.
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Roma integration challenges in employment and housing

Key challenges in housing and employment:

- Roma **lack skills and competences**; labour markets are **highly competitive**;
- Conditions for participation in **active employment measures** often contribute to **exclude Roma**;
- Results are **not monitored over time** (tendency to diminish);
- Majority of Roma live in:
 - **informal communities and buildings** (questionable ownership)
 - **without proper communal infrastructure**
 - **in overcrowded buildings of poor quality**
- **Integral measures** for decent housing are rarely offered to Roma in most vulnerable position

The challenges are resolvable!

Set objectives provide good basis for resolving the challenges.

Joint work of governments and Roma is needed.



Employment measures overview

Measure type	Economies
Adult education	BH, MK, RS
Vocational training	AL, BH, MK, Kosovo*, ME, RS
Self-employment incentives	AL, BH, ME, RS
Social entrepreneurship	AL
Employment subsidy	BH, MK, ME, RS
Public sector employment	Kosovo*
Public sector internship	ME
Registration of unemployed	RS
Informal work legalization	RS
Employment information	TR
Self-employment information	TR
Promotion of products of Roma	TR
Child labour prevention	TR

Housing measures overview

Measure type	Economies
Legalization	AL, BH, MK (property), Kosovo*, RS
Social housing	AL, Kosovo*, ME, RS
Communal infrastructure	AL, BH, MK, RS, TR
(Re)construction of housing units	AL, BH, MK, Kosovo*, RS, TR
Conditions for closing camps	ME



Strategic objectives and measures - summary

Strategies / Action plans on Roma integration in the Western Balkans and Turkey contain:

- **similar measures in housing** across the region
- **measures in employment** that
 - are **similar across the region** (except for Turkey)
 - are **specific for certain economies**



Relevant donor activities in the Western Balkans and Turkey

Donor/Programme	Geographical coverage	Areas of assistance
Austrian Development Agency	Albania, Kosovo*, Serbia	Social inclusion and Economic Development
European Union	Western Balkans and Turkey	Housing, Employment, Economic Development
German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)	Serbia and Western Balkans	Human Rights, Economic Development, Employment, Education and SME support
Norwegian Development Cooperation (NORAD)	Western Balkans	Education, Employment, Economic Development
Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC)	Western Balkans	Education, Employment, Housing
Swedish Development Cooperation (SIDA)	Western Balkans and Turkey	Employment, Housing, Health, Sustainable Economic Development
Regional Housing Program	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia	Housing for refugees and internally displaced persons – vulnerable groups
The World Bank	Western Balkans and Turkey	Economic Development, Employment, Policies development

Relevant donor activities in the Western Balkans and Turkey

- **EU and bilateral donors fund Roma integration significantly**
- Donors are interested and committed
 - to Roma integration
 - to relevant socio-economic topics indirectly targeting Roma
- Governments are implementing to some extent
- Implementing agencies / civil society are also implementing funds
 - this has not been covered by the research
- **Further streamlining, cooperation and coordination among governments and donors towards the aims of the strategic aims may be pursued**

Financial Requirements of the Strategies/Action Plans

Notes:

- Action plans are for different time periods
 - financial requirements may be higher by 2020.
- Regional Economies use different currencies
 - currencies are converted to EUR.
- The amounts include “soft” and “hard” costs
 - supporting measures related to legislation, capacity building, etc.
 - direct support to Roma individuals and families.
- Funds committed by governments are mainly for “soft” costs
- Funds committed by governments are planned within fiscal limitations
- Financial requirements are calculated for the Western Balkans only.

Financial Requirements of the Strategies/Action Plans

Priority area	Total budget (EUR)	Funds committed	Financial gap (EUR)
Employment	16,242,099.81	5,310,499.39	10,931,600.42
Housing	62,503,061.00	17,194,024.00	45,309,037.00
TOTAL	78,745,160.81	22,504,523.39	56,240,637.42

The financial gap amounts to 71% in Western Balkans, for the employment and housing priority areas.



POTENTIAL RESULTS (if financial gaps are filled)

- Direct employment supported (subsidies, start-ups, etc.):
 - 81.61% of the total funding gap, or 13,255,178 EUR
- Direct interventions in housing
 - 91% of the total funding gap, or 56,877,785 EUR.
- Calculation assumption
 - 1 employment (minimum wage, contributions) costs 6,000 EUR per year;
 - 1 housing unit (with utilities) costs 35,000 EUR on average.
 - “Soft costs” and trainings are excluded from the calculation.
- **2,209 Roma men and women employed for a year.**
- **1,625 Roma families provided decent housing.**

Recommendations – WAY FORWARD

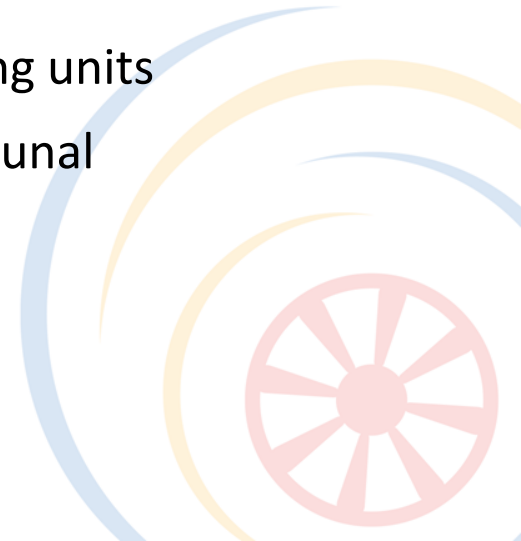
Proposed programmes for joint funding by governments and donors:

1. Employment & Employability

- Adult education for functional literacy
- Professional qualification programs for professions in demand
- Incentives for employment and self-employment with monitoring system

2. Housing & Decent Living Conditions

- Legalisation of housing
- Construction of new and reconstruction of existing housing units
- Construction of new and reconstruction of existing communal infrastructure



Thank you for your attention!

