



ROMA INTEGRATION 2020

Regional Cooperation Council

**Roma Integration 2020 project" 1st
Working Group meeting**

Vienna, 26 March 2018



Project overview

- **Roma Integration 2020**

- implemented by RCC, funded by EU and OSF
- Action Team of 5 based in Belgrade

- **GOAL**

- reducing the socio-economic gap &
- strengthen the institutional obligations

- **Mandate:** Technical and expert support to governments to

- mainstream socio-economic policies; and
- national budget planning, spending and control

- **Participant Economies:**

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Serbia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey.



Activities

• Institutional Support

Institutional Structure, Strengthening Capacities, Recommending Policies, National Platforms, Regional Workshops

Accelerated implementation, improved cross-sector coordination, built capacities and exchanged practices on Roma integration.

• Regional Cooperation

High Level Meetings, Task Force Meetings, Streamlining in RCC, Visibility

Roma policies fit the regional context, regional standards are set, and Roma issues are mainstreamed in overall regional cooperation.

• EU and International Cooperation

Reporting, EU and International Events, EU Framework Mirroring

Proper monitoring system established and EU practices are mirrored.



Achievements:

• National Platforms

- 2016, 2017, 2018 ongoing, in relation to Roma Seminars
- reporting, formulating, budgeting, mainstreaming
- demand driven
- organized with the NRCPs
- defining annual priorities for next year to be transposed in policies and budgets

• Regional Workshops

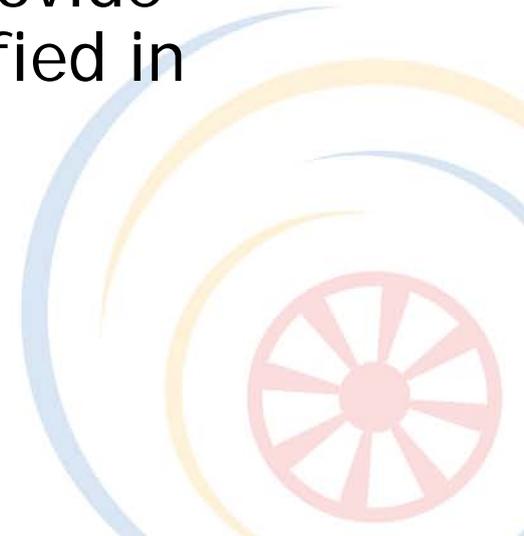
- Monitoring and Reporting, Vienna, 12.-13.12.2016
- Public Budgeting for Roma Integration, Skopje, 20.-21.03.2017
- Filling in the Budget Gaps, Tirana, 10.11.2017
- Fight against Discrimination and Anti-Gypsyism, Berlin, 13.-14.02.2018

Planned for 2018: Housing Conference and Employment Workshop

Budgeting for Roma integration

Roma integration is supported through budget:

- *Mainstream* measures (Roma benefiting from mainstream public services in different sectors)
- *Targeted* measures (designed to provide targeted support to Roma; as specified in strategies/APs)





Thematic Priorities:

- Employment
- Education
- Housing
- Health
- Other areas from the Strategies/APs:
 - Civil registration/Discrimination
 - Social Protection/Welfare
 - Culture, Information, Identity
 - etc.



Rationale - Conclusions from 2nd Task Force Meeting:

- Monitoring template adopted
- National Roma Contact Points, representing the region's governments, committed to adopt the monitoring template as official part of their strategies/action plans and task the state statistics and ministries of finance to fill in the corresponding parts. Monitoring reports should be sent to the RI2020 team in June each year.
- **Roma Integration 2020 Action Team (RI2020) is given the mandate to work with the governments on developing regional standards for budgeting of Roma Integration policies and mainstream budgeting responsible to Roma integration**

Rationale - Looking at Monitoring reports 2016:

Measures (both mainstream and targeted) envisaged with the Roma Integration Strategies and Action Plans **are left out of the budgeting cycle** and as such delayed in the implementation process, staggering the continuity of the Roma integration process. Hence, **additional efforts are needed to ensure that prioritization and budgeting of Roma integration policies are enhanced and structurally embedded in the overall budget planning, budget spending and budget control process.**

A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner, featuring a large, faint, stylized wheel or gear shape in shades of blue, yellow, and red, mirroring the logo's colors.

Rationale - International Regulatory Framework:

New Europe 2020 *priorities (EU)*:

- Smart growth
- Sustainable development
- Inclusive development

EC Communication (2011) - An EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020:

“When developing national Roma integration strategies, Member States shouldallocate a sufficient funding from national budgets , which will be complemented, where appropriate, by international and EU funding.”

Rationale - International Regulatory Framework (EU Conditionality) :

Enlargement Strategy 2016:

The difficult situation of Roma remains broadly unchanged and Roma, particularly in the Western Balkans, continue to be the victims of discrimination and social exclusion. The policy framework for Roma integration is in place in all enlargement countries, but governments need to enhance their efforts to implement the existing commitments and allocate the necessary resources at central and local level.

Enlargement Strategy 2018:

Decisive efforts are needed to protect minorities and fight discrimination, notably against the Roma - for whom social inclusion should be more robustly promoted

Negotiations - Chapter 33:

Line to programme budgeting



Monitoring Template Logic:

- Based on DG Justice reporting template (Simplified)
- FRA / Roma Inclusion Index indicators

Contents:

- Institutional arrangements
- Measures by priority areas
- Budget (total planned in strategy/AP, annually planned, annually spent - by priority areas, spent by sources)
- Impact Assessment



Monitoring Template Example 1

Goal: Increase employment of Roma

Increase the formal employment among Roma from 17 to 35% within 4 years.

Total budget 3.000.000 EUR

Indicator % of employed Roma from the Roma in the workforce

Baseline (2015)	Roma male	Roma female	Overall population
	17%	12%	37%
Milestone (2016)	22%		
Budget planned (2016)	800.000 EUR		
Budget spent (2016)	770.000 EUR		
Achievement (2016)	Roma male	Roma female	Overall population
	20%	17%	38%



Issues to address:

- Lack of data on:
 - expenditure
 - measures implemented
 - targeted population (no desegregated data)
 - impact
- Budget Planned vs Budget Spent
- Linking Strategies and APs with budget planning and implementation
- Prioritizing and Limited funds
- Actual Cost of Policies? Solid Funding Proposals
- Decision Making
- Monitoring and Evaluating Expenditure
- Clear Responsibilities
- Transparency and Accountability



Towards:

- Identified Gaps and Challenges
- Identified Needs
- Identified Opportunities
- Evidence based Budgeting - Realistic cost assessments
- Strong link between policies and budgeting
- Effective and Efficient Policies for Roma Integration
- Accountability
- Successful Programme Budgeting reform

Final documents:

- Step by Step Approach - What is Possible
- Beneficial for Roma but also Overall Budget System and Reform



Outcomes - Roma Responsible Budgeting:

- Synchronized budgets and Strategies and Action Plans
- Budgets responding to needs of Roma - more and better targeted expenditure
- Participation
- Priorities and performance continuously reviewed and information feed into relevant documents (policies, monitoring reports, budgets and funding proposals)

