



Government of the Republic of Serbia
Coordination Body for the Implementation of the
Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma

Roma Integration 2020

**Form for the annual report of the countries participating in the
implementation of the Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy for
Social Inclusion of the Roma in the Republic of Serbia 2016-2025 for the
period 2017 to 2018**

:: Monitoring and reporting form 2017::

Serbia
2017 Report
Date



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Institutional arrangement

Background	
Reporting year	2017
Country	Republic of Serbia
Strategic document	Strategy for Social Inclusion of the Roma in the Republic of Serbia 2016-2025
Period	2016-2025
Link for download	http://www.ljudskaprava.gov.rs/sites/default/files/dokument_file/strategija_za_socijalno_ukljucivanje_roma_i_romkinja_2016_2025.pdf
Action Plan	Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy for Social Inclusion of the Roma in the Republic of Serbia 2017-2025, for the period 2017 to 2018
Period	2017-2018
Link for download	http://www.ljudskaprava.gov.rs/sites/default/files/dokument_file/akcioni_plan_za_primenu_strategije_za_socijalno_ukljufivanje_roma_i_romkinja_u_rs_2016-2025_za_period_od_2017._do_2018._godine.pdf
Operational Conclusions	
Link for download	
Action Plan for Chapter 23	Adopted
Link for download	http://www.mpravde.gov.rs/files/Action%20plan%20Ch%2023.pdf

National focal point for the Roma	
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Measures by priority areas

EDUCATION		
Objective: Full inclusion of Roma children and youth into good quality preschool, primary and secondary education, and effective and efficient mechanisms to fight discrimination and create the conditions for Roma to exercise all minority rights in the education system.		
Ensure full inclusion of Roma children and youth into good quality preschool, primary and secondary education a greater share of the Roma in the student population and support for the education of youth and adults who have no education or have dropped out of school, through the introduction of effective and efficient mechanisms to fight discrimination and create the conditions for Roma to exercise all minority rights in the education system.		
Total budget		
Planned budget (2017)		
Spent budget (2017)		
Indicator	Adjusted enrolment rate for preschool education (3-6 years)	
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women	Total population
	19.3 %	47.8 %
Achievement (2017)	Roma men and women	Total population
	17.0 %	40.5 %
Indicator	Adjusted enrolment rate for compulsory education (7-15 years)	
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women	Total population
	79.9 %	95.1 %
Achievement (2017)	Roma men and women	Total population
	84.5 %	97.9 %
Indicator	Compulsory education completion rate (18-21 years)	
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women	Total population
	52.2 %	100.0 %
Achievement	Roma men and women	Total population



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(2017)	61.6 %	94.1 %
Indicator	Higher secondary education completion rate (22-25 years)	
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women	Total population
	13.2 %	82.1 %
Achievement (2017)	Roma men and women	Total population
	13.7 %	88.9 %
Indicator	Tertiary education completion rate (26-29 years)	
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women	Total population
	0.5 %	12.2 %
Achievement (2017)	Roma men and women	Total population
	1.4 %	22.6 %

Source: Regional research on the position of the Roma conducted by the UNDP with the support of the DG NEAR, in cooperation with the World Bank and in consultation with the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, in 2011 and 2017.

Specific objective 1: Ensure full inclusion of Roma children and youth into good quality preschool, primary and secondary education a greater share of the Roma in the student population and support for the education of youth and adults who have no education or have dropped out of school, through the introduction of effective and efficient mechanisms to fight discrimination and create the conditions for Roma to exercise all minority rights in the education system.

Operational objective 1: Ensure that Roma children have equal opportunities for early childhood development and learning from birth, and that they are ready for inclusion in mandatory education.

Prepared measures and activities within the first objective in 2017

M.1	Ensure identification of development and learning needs of children, as well as the needs of parents for various types of support in promoting early childhood development and learning, in order to develop adequate types of support by preschool institutions; provide programmes for parents and children up to three years of age in the family, community and preschool institution to promote child development and learning and parent skills development, and availability of high-quality preschool programmes for children aged 3-5 years (full-day, half-day).	Planned budget (2017)
		Spent budget (2017)



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<p>Activity:</p> <p>1.1.1.1. Analyse the needs, create special and accessible programmes for children up to three years of age and for adults responsible for their development and learning (parents/foster parents/guardians and teachers), in the family, community, and preschool institutions.</p> <p>1.1.1.2. Implement programmes for parents and children up to three years of age in the family, community, and preschool institution designed to encourage child development and learning and parent skills (trainings for programme providers, providing for the financial and other conditions for the implementation of programmes).</p> <p>1.1.1.3. Organise various shorter-duration preschool education programmes for children aged 3-5.5 (20% of children from vulnerable social groups)</p> <p>1.1.1.4. Stimulation of local governments to finance various programmes to increase the coverage of children by preschool programmes at the age of 4.5 – 5.5 years.</p> <p>The Board of the World Bank approved the realisation of the “Inclusive Preschool Education” project and the loan was ratified in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, which made it effective in October 2017. Within the preparatory activities for the realisation of this project all local self-government units were sent a questionnaire and the data were collected which ensured an insight into the available capacities, real needs, and possibilities in the domain of realisation of the preschool education. In order to inform the professional public, the preschool institutions, and local self-government units, and to stimulate them to take an active participation in the existing activities in this project, the Nordic Trust Fund and the World Bank Country Office in Serbia, with the support of the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technological Development, realised the conference “Inclusion of Children from Vulnerable Groups in the Preschool System”. In cooperation with the MESTD, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs, in October 2017, UNICEF launched the national campaign named “Every moment is important”. The goal of this campaign is to raise the awareness about the importance of the first 1000 days in life and the</p>	
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	<p>significance of early experience for child development. Conference “The Most Important Investment in the Future of the Nation – Early Child Development” was held, within which the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technological Development, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran, and Social Affairs made a Call to action: “Support the early child development” Optimal conditions for development of all children and society in general! in which, as the national priorities for improving the social support to children in early development in Serbia, they identified: Policy and Institutional Consolidation; Parent support; Safe Childhood; Health Promotion; Available Preschool Education for All Children; Interventions in Early Childhood.</p> <p>*More about the Project could be found in Annex section of this document</p>							
	<table> <tr> <td>Roma men</td><td>Roma women</td><td>Total population</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	Roma men	Roma women	Total population				
Roma men	Roma women	Total population						
M.2	<p>In the period 2017-2018, contribute to the full coverage of Roma children aged 5.5 to 6.5 years by good quality preschool education and learning, primarily through their attendance of full-days or four-hour programmes, as well as the full coverage by and regular attendance of high quality preparatory preschool programme.</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>1.1.2.1. Identify Roma children from 5.5 to 6.5 years of age who have reached the age for attending the preparatory preschool programme</p> <p>1.1.2.2. Organise activities for increasing the coverage of Roma children of relevant age by the preparatory preschool programme</p> <p>1.1.2.3. Increase the quality of PSE programmes:</p> <p>- PSI implement programme activities promoting multiculturalism and contributing to the protection of the identity, culture and language of the Roma national minority - A sufficient number of teaching assistants engaged (TA) - Progress in the development and learning of Roma children is monitored and supported – Institutions pay attention to the transition along the PSI-PS relation</p> <p>In the period 2017-2018, contribute to the full coverage of Roma children aged from 5.5 to 6.5 years by the good quality preschool education, especially through full-day but also four-hour programmes, and the full coverage and regular attendance of quality prepared preschool</p>	<p>Planned budget (2017)</p> <hr/> <p>Spent budget (2017)</p> <p>259,565.49 RSD</p> <p>Save the children for the project which part refers to training of TA for preschool education</p>						



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	<p>programme.</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>1.1.2.1. Identify Roma children from 5.5 to 6.5 years of age who have reached the age for attending the preparatory preschool programme</p> <p>1.1.2.2. Organise activities for increasing the coverage of Roma children of relevant age by the preparatory preschool programme</p> <p>1.1.2.3. Increase the quality of PSE programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PSI implement programme activities promoting multiculturalism and contributing to the protection of the identity, culture and language of the Roma national minority - A sufficient number of teaching assistants engaged (TA) - Progress in the development and learning of Roma children is monitored and supported – Institutions pay attention to the transition along the PSI-PS relation <p>Within the “Joint programme for inclusion of Roma children and children from vulnerable groups” the Red Cross of Serbia realised mapping of children outside the education system from rural areas, and participated in ensuring the support for their inclusion. The data were collected using the Questionnaire for mapping resources in the local community for the support of children in education filled-in by local coordinators with the support of the coordination team. Mapping contributed to: the definition of the number of children from vulnerable rural areas who are outside of the education system; definition of obstacles to inclusion of children into the education system; definition of resources on the local community level for provision of support to children from vulnerable, rural areas for the inclusion in the education system; analysis of the access to the education system by the identified children and need assessment for additional education, health and social support for children/pupils. With this activity 436 children were mapped.</p> <p>In the previous years, the Red Cross, within the Joint Programme for inclusion of Roma and marginalised groups through education, in various ways, provided support to the inclusion of children from vulnerable social groups in preschool education. Since the project is ending, starting of September 2017 the Red Cross will not be able to proceed with the support in the scope and so far used forms of support. At this point in 16 municipalities 322 children are covered, out of whom 30 children will go to PPP, while 292 children of 3-5.5 years of age should be included in the preschool education system.</p> <p>According to the information obtained from the Red Cross, the transition process is ongoing and the assessment is that it will be successfully realised for almost all the children.</p>	
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	<p>Teaching assistants' Association realised the conference "Teaching assistance in the education system in the Republic of Serbia on the development milestone – examples of good practice, challenges, vision of the future" in which, as one of the central topics, the results of the last year's campaign were discussed for increasing the coverage of Roma children with the PPP, manners to improve the activities of teaching assistants, and other key partners during this year's campaign (80 participants: members of APAS and representatives of key partner institutions and organisations).</p> <p>Due to the data indicating that the coverage of children with the preparatory preschool programme is not complete (between 95-98%), while the coverage of children from vulnerable groups is significantly lower and is 62.9 % (data MIKS 5), starting of 2015 the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technological Development in cooperation with relevant partners, implements a continuous campaign for increasing the number of enrolled children in the preparatory preschool programme and the first grade of primary school.</p> <p>In April 2017, in cooperation with SCTM from local self-governments in which the coverage of children by the PPP and the enrolment in the first grade of primary school is under 90%, data were collected of importance for the promotion of the coverage (local action plans which activities are focused on an increase of the coverage of children and regular attendance, inter-sectoral cooperation in mapping, sensibilisation, enrolment assistance provision, ensuring additional support as a precondition for regular attendance and progress..). From the PSIs of the targeted municipalities we collected operational activity plans related to the increase of the coverage of children from vulnerable social groups by the preparatory preschool programme for the year 2016/17 and the supporting reports. Based on the insight into the collected data, in May and June 2017, consultative workshops were realised "Increase of the coverage of children by the preparatory preschool programme and the first grade of primary school" with the representatives of preschool institutions and other relevant institutions on the level of local community in which, according to the data of the Statistical Office of Serbia, the coverage is under 90% (covered 50% of the planned municipalities). The goal of the workshops was, based on the situation analysis, to identify good practice, barriers and difficulties, and to create draft measures and activity plans for reaching the full coverage of children.</p> <p>Law on the Fundamentals of the Education System ("Official Gazette of RS", no 88/2017, 27/18 (I) – other law, and 27/18 (II) –other law) Article 7, paragraph 2, indent 2, defines that in the realisation of the principles of education, a special attention is focused on the support to the transition</p>	
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	<p>of a child, especially pupil into the next level of education, and realisation of the continuity in education.</p> <p>In 2017, there were 30 Roma teaching assistant hired in preschool institutions.</p> <p>Ministry of Education, Science, and Technological Development signed the Memorandum of Cooperation with the international organisation Save the Children for the North-West Balkans (SCNWB) and started the activities on the realisation of the project "Available and Good Quality Education for Roma Girls and Boys" (2017-2018). Training for teaching assistants "Development and Learning of Early Age Children" was prepared and accredited for the teaching assistants working in preschool institutions, and the plan was to include the educators who graduated in Romani from the Higher Vocational School "Mihajlo Pavlov" in Vršac. The goal of the training was to strengthen the capacities of teaching assistants in the field of early development and work in preschool institutions in the Republic of Serbia.</p>		
	Roma men	Roma women	
M.3	<p>Provide additional educational, social, and healthcare support to children.</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>1.1.3.1. Regulate support for poor families to attend PSE from the earliest age</p> <p>LGs recognise, organise and finance additional support and services at the local level: free programmes, secured materials, transport, food, clothes...</p> <p>1.1.3.2. Ensure a more efficient ISC by strengthening competencies of its members for defining adequate forms of additional support, by adopting professional guidelines, identifying best practices, etc. as well as by providing the conditions for LG to provide various forms of additional support to Roma children proposed by the ISC.</p> <p>1.1.3.3. Support to the development of employee competencies (including TA) required for quality inclusive preschool education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote good practices and develop programmes - Provide employee training - Create relevant guides, collections of good practice, professional materials 		Planned budget (2017)
			Spent budget (2017)
			<p>Budget funds</p> <p>2.874.150 RSD</p> <p>Donations EUR 280,000 UNICEF in Serbia through the financial support of ADA and SDC</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Establish a network of mentors for support to IE- Establish closer cooperation and horizontal learning between educational institutions (the activity also pertains to objective 1.2.) <p><i>Inclusive preschool education</i> project was ratified and its realisation started. Activities for the provision of the support to strengthening the parents and guardians in achieving the educational function of the family, provision of grants for programmes of certain underdeveloped municipalities, and subsidized stay of children from most vulnerable families in preschool institutions have been developed within the third project component. Within the component 3 of the Project, the expectations are to have an increased number of children of beneficiaries of social assistance aged from 3 to 5.5 years enrolled in preschool programmed free of charge (EUR 4,000,000.00 have been allocated for this purpose for the period of 4 years).</p> <p>Improved inter-sectoral cooperation in the field of IE. Concluded new Agreement on establishing the inter-sectoral Joint Body for the support to the social inclusion, support to the work and coordination of surveillance over the work of inter-sectoral committees for evaluation of the needs for provision of additional educational, healthcare and social support to children and pupils by the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technological Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs, and Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government.</p> <p>Law on the Fundamentals of the Education System ("<i>Official Gazette of RS</i>", no 88/2017, 27/18 (I) – other law and 27/18 (II) – other law), Article 76 improved the regulation of the ISC work, especially in relation to the collection and processing of personal data for the purpose of need assessment for the provision of additional educational, healthcare and social support to children, pupils and adults, and monitoring of its effects.</p> <p>With the aim of improving the work of inter-sectoral committees through the establishment of the inter-sectoral support on the local level, MoESTD supported the project "Improvement of the professional support in the community – an important step in the child inclusion" implemented by the Centre for Social Policy in cooperation with the UNICEF, Team for Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction, SCTM, and with the financial support of ADA and SDC.</p>	
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	During the project there were one-day trainings organised for the members of the inter-sectoral committees of all the municipalities in Serbia, a training programme was developed including 17 Belgrade municipalities.		
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
Operational objective 2: Provide good quality primary and secondary education for Roma children and youth, effectively prevent school dropout, and provide various forms of additional support until completion of secondary education.			
M.1	<p>Ensure the efficient implementation of existing regulations on intake in primary education to ensure timely enrolment in the mainstream primary education system and prevent unjustified enrolment of Roma children in special primary education or special classes within the mainstream primary education system, especially of children living in Roma settlements and indigent children.</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>1.2.1.1. Introduce active measures for awareness raising, provision of adequate legal and other support services for parents/guardians in exercising the right of the child to elementary education.</p> <p>1.2.1.2. Strengthen the professional capacities of primary schools to ensure that they are ready to adequately respond to the educational needs of Roma children – by informing and training teachers, parents of Roma and non-Roma children and students, about the rights of Roma children, cultural differences, barriers to regular school attendance, learning and development.</p> <p>1.2.1.3. Improve the procedure for testing children before starting school (as needed) in their native Romani language, to facilitate an impartial and valid assessment of their educational and learning needs and the adaptation of the school and teachers to the needs of the children.</p> <p>1.2.1.4. Improve the work of teaching assistants by setting the criteria for their recruitment, their job and responsibilities description, as well as by enabling their professional training and development, which should include gender sensitized and anti-discriminatory contents. Provide a sufficient number of teaching</p>		Planned budget (2017)
			<p>Spent budget (2017)</p> <p>TA salaries: RSD 103,556,402.16</p> <p>Donations RSD 1,059,100.00</p> <p>Save the Children “Available and quality education of Roma girls and boys” (2017-2018) MoESTD in partnership with Save the Children for North-West Balkans, Sarajevo</p>



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	<p>assistants by regulating and providing funding for them.</p> <p>1.2.1.5. Provide effective and efficient mechanism for the prevention of early school dropout among Roma children, and ensure that educational institutions have the capacity to implement them.</p> <p>1.2.1.6. Ensure regular school attendance and development of Roma children, in particular girls, especially when transitioning from fourth to fifth grade and from primary to secondary education, by stipulating the responsibility of schools to monitor and react in cases of school absenteeism and/or early dropout, in cooperation with parents and CSW.</p> <p>MoESTD in partnership with the international organisation Save the Children for North-West Balkans (SCNWB) within the "Available and quality education for Roma girls and boys" project (2017-2018) realised a number of activities with the aim to strengthen primary schools for the implementation of the Dropout Prevention Model, school needs assessment, and provision of mentoring support. <i>Training for planning, implementing and monitoring the measures for prevention of dropout of pupils</i> as a model for prevention of dropout, will be accredited and included in the list of programmes of special importance. Twelve primary schools having developed action plans and preparatory programmes of mentoring support joint this partnership project. <i>Training for planning, implementing and monitoring the measures for prevention of dropout of pupils</i> was realised from 1 to 4 February 2018. There were 25 participants, representatives of 12 primary schools which are part of the "Available and quality education for Roma girls and boys" project.</p> <p><u>Achieved following outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Participants acquired knowledge about the Model for Dropout Prevention and its main components; ✓ Participants acquired practical knowledge related to the implementation of the Instruments for Identification of Pupils under Dropout Risk and the creation of the Plan for Individual Pupils; ✓ Participants realised, through practical examples, the importance of the measures contributing to the dropout 	
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	<p>reduction in schools – peer support, inclusion of parents and available teaching, and the cooperation with the local community;</p> <p>✓ Participants acquired knowledge about the opportunities for additional testing of pupils under a high dropout risk;</p> <p>Participants created a draft action plan for the dropout prevention at the level of school (12 draft action plans).</p>		
	Roma men	Roma women	
M.2	<p>Improve the intake of Roma children in secondary education through affirmative secondary education enrolment for all Roma children who have completed primary education and are eligible to continue their education at the secondary education level, as well as regular secondary school attendance.</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>1.2.2.1. Define ways to monitor the effects of affirmative action on the education of the Roma population through amendments to the Law on the Fundamentals of the Education System (LoFES).</p> <p>1.2.2.2. Based on a survey and analysis of the causes of school dropout, establish mentorship and scholarship programmes in order to provide effective and efficient mechanisms for the prevention of secondary school dropout ensuring regular development, learning and completion of secondary education of Roma children and youth</p> <p>1.2.2.3. Strengthen the professional capacities of secondary schools to ensure that they are ready to provide an adequate response to the educational needs of Roma children – by informing and training teachers, parents of Roma and non-Roma children and students, about the rights of Roma children, cultural differences, barriers to regular school attendance, learning and development.</p> <p>Rulebook on the measures and procedure for the enrolment of pupils – Roma national minority in the secondary school under more favourable conditions for achieving the full equality ("Official Gazette of RS", no 12/2016) is put out of power, since it entirely became an integral part of the Rulebook on the Enrolment</p>		Planned budget (2017)
			<p>Spent budget (2017)</p> <p>RS Budget scholarships for 303 pupils x RSD 5,400.00 x10 instalments /for school year = RSD 16,362,000</p> <p>RS Budget - 200 mentors- amount of payment per pupil: RSD 2,900.00</p> <p>Total: RSD 15,000,000</p> <p>Enrolment of Roma pupils in</p>



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<p>of Pupils in Secondary School (<i>“Official Gazette of RS, no 38/17 and 51/17</i>) and the new Rulebook on the Enrolment of Pupils in Secondary School (<i>“Official Gazette of RS”, number 23 since March 23, 2018</i>, which includes the entire text of the Rulebook on the measures and procedure for the enrolment of pupils – Roma national minority in secondary school under more favourable conditions for achieving a full equality. MoESTD is in a constant contact with the primary schools which are provided with the necessary documentation for the realisation of the Programme of the Affirmative Measure for the school year 2018/19. All primary schools, through their school administrations, received a notice reminding them of the obligation they have in terms of the information of pupils and parents about the measures of the affirmative action and provision of additional support in collection of the documentation. With the implementation of the Rulebook in the <u>school year 2016/17</u>, 1632 Roma pupils were enrolled (840 M; 792 F). For the use of the measure of the affirmative action for <u>the school year 2017/18</u> there were over 2.500 Roma pupils who applied, and 1969 pupils were enrolled. Professional instructions for the implementation of the enrolment of pupils in secondary school was published which more closely defines the conditions, procedure of candidate selection and the manner of conducting the Call. A document was adopted Guidelines for adjusting the entrance exam to pupils in the need of additional educational support.</p> <p>Scholarships for pupils of Roma national minority ensure a higher coverage and full inclusion in the quality secondary education, especially scholarships for Roma pupils from first to fourth grade of secondary school, with the average mark from 2.5 to 3.5. In the school year 2017/18, 520 Roma pupils got the scholarship. The amount of the monthly scholarship is RSD 3.900.00. From the budget of the MoESTD for the school year 2016-17, there were 150 pupil scholarships for Roma pupils in secondary schools with the excellent grades (out of which 60% were girls). The amount of the monthly scholarship is RSD 5.400. In the school year 2017/18, the budget of the MoESTD ensured 303 scholarships for the very good and excellent pupils and 500 scholarships for the pupils with average marks from 2.5 to 3.5, in cooperation with the MoESTD and REF.</p> <p>Involvement of mentors in the education support to pupils has the</p>	<p>secondary schools realised within the regular activities of the Sector for Secondary Education and Education of Adults.</p>
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	aim to ensure a better quality education and reduce the dropout. The support in the involvement, learning, and progress to these pupils is provided by the teachers-mentors who have undergone trainings for mentors. Mentors provide the support to the pupils and monitor their progress, regular attendance and extracurricular activities. Pupils who are part of the mentorship system have improved their school performance and are more regularly attend classes. In the school 2017/18, there were 201 teachers-mentors for provision of the support to the Roma pupils. The monthly amount of the compensation for the mentors is RSD 2.900,00 per pupil.		
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
Operational objective 3: Provide effective and efficient mechanism for identifying various forms of discrimination against Roma persons, their prevention and intervention in case of discrimination.			
M.1	Develop educational institutions as inclusive, intercultural, non-discriminatory and safe environments for Roma children and all other children by developing an inclusive educational setting, based on respecting diversities and promoting equality, the rights of the child and human rights. Activities: 1.3.1.1. Develop the Guidelines for the Implementation of the Rulebook on the Detailed Criteria for Recognising Acts of Discrimination Committed by Staff, Children, Students, or Third Parties in an Educational Institution 1.3.1.2. Support the implementation of the Rulebook on identification of all forms of discrimination by developing a manual and implementing trainings for teaching staff, children, and parents. 1.3.1.3. Remove the contents from the teaching material disseminating negative stereotypes on Roma community members, and ensure that affirmative contents on Romani language, culture, history and tradition are included in the programmes of different subjects, and that the elements of intercultural education are included in the programmes of different subjects. MoESTD realises the “Support to the implementation of the regulation in the field of anti-discrimination in education” project		Planned budget (2017)
			Spent budget (2017) Donations 1,973,897.00 RSD project “Support to the implementation and regulation in the field of anti-discrimination in education” donor UNICEF



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(July 2016 - December 2018) in cooperation with the UNICEF and Commissioner for the Protection of Equality. Working Group formed within this project actively worked on improving the legal regulations in the field of recognition and reaction to discrimination in educational institutions. Since the previous Law on the Fundamentals of the Education System defined the bylaw which regulated the recognition, but not the reaction to the cases of discrimination in the educational institutions, the Working Group worked on the amendments to this law. The result is reflected in the amendments to the new Law on the Fundamentals of the Education System ("*Official Gazette of RS, no 88/2017, 27/18 (I) – other law and 27/18 (II) –other law*"), adopted in late October 2017, and the articles were also adopted which more closely define the prohibition of discrimination, prohibition of the behaviour that offends reputation, respect, and dignity, and the obligations of authorities and individuals to react on the situation of discriminatory behaviour. In these circumstance where the field of anti-discrimination is more clearly defined, the Working Group decided to work on a new Rulebook on conduct of the institutions in case of suspicion or identified discriminatory behaviour. The text of the future Rulebook is in the final phase of creation and it will define the conduct of the institutions which suspect or identify discriminatory behaviour, manners of implementing preventive and intervention measures, obligations and responsibility of children, pupils, adults, parents, or other legal representatives, employees, third persons in the institutions, authorities and bodies, and other issues of importance for the protection against discrimination. What should be particularly stressed is that the new draft Rulebook defines the segregation, and preventive activities on the level of local self-government unit for the prevention of segregation, then interventions and measures of desegregation and measures applied for individual child and pupils in the process of desegregation. The Inter-sectoral Working Group has adopted in principle adopted the draft Rulebook and sent it for opinion to the line institutions.

Within this project "Support to the implementation of the regulation in the field of anti-discrimination in education", there were 6 focus groups held, 3 with teachers and 3 focus groups with parents in primary and secondary schools in three cities of the



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	Republic of Serbia.		
	In the realisation of the project of the Council of Europe and the European Union, supporting the South-East Europe and Turkey “Horizontal Facility “ HF – 33 – Strengthening the protection of the national minorities in Serbia, there was an analysis of selected teaching curricula, subject competences and educational standards, presented in this report, showing the heterogeneous situation in terms of the attendance and the relation towards the national minorities in the educational frame in the Republic of Serbia.		
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
Operational objective 4: Create the conditions for expressing the identity, fostering the language and culture and exercising all minority rights of Roma in education			
M.1	Ensure the implementation of measures which will contribute to the strengthening and preserving the Romani language and indemnity, as well as the Roma inclusion in society against their assimilation Activities: 1.4.1.1 Organise research on the Romani language, culture and identity, in keeping with scientific research standards. 1.4.1.2. Improve opportunities for learning the native language and elements of ethnic culture in schools, by preserving the status of elective courses and developing optional and other extracurricular activities, and by providing the means for the implementation of optional extracurricular activities. 1.4.1.3. Develop and promote publishing in the Romani language and bilingual, to be used in preschool institutions, primary and secondary schools: textbooks, teaching materials, school reading books and similar Department for Romani language at the Faculty of Philology of the University of Belgrade (opened in academic year 2015/16) continued with the work in 2017. At the Faculty of Philology of the University of Belgrade, within the study programmes “Language, literature, culture”, which was created with the structural integration of teaching individual languages, literatures and cultures, librarianship, and information, general linguistics and theory of literature, students have the opportunity to study 35 foreign languages, including the Romani language. From the introduction of the Romani language, 15 students attended this elective subject. In the school year 2016/17, within the Centre for Continuous Education		Planned budget (2017) Spent budget (2017) Salaries of recruited teachers for elective subjects of Romani language with the elements of national culture – 12,200,000 RSD. Public call for the participation in the use of financial funds for grants to non-government and other non-profit organisations important for education – supported 3 projects which



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	<p>and Evaluation of the Faculty of Philology of the University of Belgrade, 54 new students acquired the certificates for teaching <i>Romani language with the elements of national culture</i>. In the school year 2016/17, 2264 pupils attended the elective subject <i>Romani language with the elements of national culture</i> in 72 PSs in Serbia. In the school year 2016/17 there were 55 teachers recruited to teach <i>Romani language with the elements of national culture</i>. In the school year 2017/18 the number of pupils attending the elective subject <i>Romani language with the elements of national culture</i> grew, and now that number is 2.860 in 79 primary schools.</p> <p>With the aim to ensure the missing textbooks in the Romani language, MoESTD conducted Public Call for submitting requests for approval of textbooks for the elective subject <i>Romani language with the elements of national culture</i> for the first, second, third and fourth grade of primary education. MoESTD prepares the memorandums with the national councils which national minorities realise the elective <i>subject of Mother tongue/speech with the elements of national culture</i> (including the National Council of Roma national minority) to define the needs for textbooks for this elective subject and realisation timeline.</p> <p>MoESTD realised a Public Call for the participation in the use of financial resources for grants to non-government and other non-profit organisations important for education. The aim of the call was to improve the education system through educational activities providing support to pupils of primary and secondary schools. Out of 40 approved programmes in total, three projects were approved which target is the Roma national minority. The proposed programmes will realise the activities focused on the improvement of mother tongue/speech with the elements of national culture in primary schools.</p>		target group is Roma community – RSD 822,000.00
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
Operational objective 5: Ensure higher representation of the Roma in the student population and education of Roma experts in the field of importance for the Roma community and implementation of the Strategy			
M.1	<p>Provide support to young Roma who have successfully completed four-year secondary education in preparing for enrolment, career guidance and further education.</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>1.5.1.1.Organise trainings for pedagogues-psychologists in secondary education institutions about the specific needs of Roma students in career guidance</p> <p>1.5.1.2.Improve the Technical Instructions for managing the enrolment</p>		<p>Planned budget (2017)</p> <p>Spend budget (2017)</p>



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	<p>in first year study programmes for basic and integrated studies at higher education institutions, with a view to increasing the 1% quota for studies of particular relevance for the Roma community.</p> <p>1.5.1.3.Improve the Call for the award of student loans and scholarships to students of higher education institutions to enable the ranking of students enrolling in university courses of particular relevance for the Roma community.</p> <p>1.5.1.4.Improve the Call for the award of student scholarships to highly talented students in respect of the criteria for determining the ranking, by introducing affirmative action for Roma students to facilitate their enrolment in doctoral studies in fields of particular relevance for the Roma community and implementation of the Strategy.</p> <p>Professional instructions for conducting enrolment in the first year of study programme of primary and integrated studies at higher education institutions are made every school year and the define the documentation the candidates submit. The enrolment in the HEI within the Programme of Affirmative Enrolment Measure for Roma National Minority within the quota of 1% can be achieved by a student who has passed the entrance exam. When enrolling in the higher years of studies, students who were enrolled through the Programme of Affirmative Action of Roma Inclusion in the Education System in the status of students funded from the budget, are not ranked with other students but keep that budget status if they achieve 36 ECTS in line with the Law on Higher Education.</p> <p>The faculty is obliged to keep a record in its information system on the students who are enrolled through the Programme of Affirmative Enrolment Measure in the first years of studies and acquired the right to be funded from the budget. Students who were enrolled through the Programme of Affirmative Enrolment Measure in the status of student funded from the budget have the right to accommodation and food in line with the conditions of the Calls for acceptance of students of higher education institutions in the Republic of Serbia in the institutions for accommodation and food of students published every year and 10% of slots are ensured for the beneficiaries of the Programme of Affirmative Measures.</p> <p>In the academic year 2016/2017, 183 students (M88; F94) were enrolled based on the Programme of Affirmative Measure of Enrolment of Roma Students in Higher Education Institutions founded by the RS. In the academic year 2016/2017, there were 93 student scholarships awarded and 34 student loans.</p> <p>In the academic year 2017/2018, 154 students (71M; 83F) were enrolled based on the Programme of Affirmative Measure of Enrolment of Roma</p>	
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	<p>Students in Higher Education Institutions founded by the RS. Upon the conducted Call for awarding student loans for the school years 2016/2017, 34 loans were awarded to Roma students, within 10% of allocated slots for vulnerable social groups.</p> <p>Upon the conducted Call for awarding student scholarships for the school year 2016/2017, 93 scholarships were awarded to Roma students, within 10% of allocated slots for vulnerable social groups.</p> <p>Roma Education Fund, in cooperation with the MoESTD and two programmes RMUSP (Roma Memorial University Scholarship Program) and RHP (Roma Health Program) provided scholarships for 82 regular students through the RMUSP and 26 students of medicine through the RHP with the mentoring support and improvement of the capacities of students through learning a foreign language. In early December 2017, the Rulebook on amendments to the rulebook on pupil and student loans and scholarships was adopted, which defined less strict criteria for awarding scholarships and loans to members of the vulnerable social groups. Based on the Call for awarding pupil and student loans and scholarships for the school year 2017/2018, 303 pupil scholarships were awarded to Roma pupils.</p>		
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
Operational objective 6: Provide high-quality primary and secondary education to Roma youth and adults who have no education or have dropped out of school early, as well as various forms of additional support to enable them to acquire secondary education and vocational qualifications.			
M.1	<p>Regulate and improve primary and secondary education of youth and adults who have no education or have dropped out of school</p> <p>1.6.1.1. Ensure the transition into primary schools of children below the age of 15 who are attending schools for primary education for adults.</p> <p>1.6.1.2. Optimise the network of primary and secondary schools providing primary and secondary education programmes for adults to make them accessible to the Roma in the place of their residence</p> <p>1.6.1.3. Improve professional capacities of primary and secondary adult education teaching staff through standardised, good quality training.</p> <p>1.6.1.4. Regulate the role of adult education teaching assistants, organise training, provide the description of their job and an adequate number of adult education teaching assistants in the schools that need them.</p> <p>1.6.1.5. Develop specific support measures and teaching arrangements</p>		



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	<p>suited to women, especially young mothers, by facilitating child care, free transport to school, as well as instruction in Roma settlements.</p> <p>The material for the Council for Vocational Education and Adult Education giving the opinion about the Annual Plan for Adult Education for 2017/2018, has been completed.</p> <p>Based on the report submitted by schools realising the primary education of adults, as well as secondary schools realising the part-time education, qualification and additional qualification, the education programmes are regularly attended by older Roma students.</p> <p>In the school year 2016/2017, 1895 students of Roma national minority completed the primary education for adults. For the school year 2017/2018 the plan is to enrol 5912 students of primary education for adults organised in 59 schools for primary education of adults and primary schools realising the primary education programme for adults based on the model of functional primary education of adults in 15 school administrations. The assessment is that more than 60% are Roma student. Part-time secondary education will be organised in 17 school administrations in 196 secondary schools.</p> <p>Requalification, additional qualification and specialisation is organised in secondary schools. Primary education of adults in this school year will be organised in 5 detention and rehabilitation institutes with 253 students. The mentioned data will be an integral part of the Annual Adult Education Plan for 2018. There are 16 decisions issued by the minister for the status of publically recognised organiser of activities for adult education (PROA).</p> <p>41 andragogy assistants were recruited in 68 school. Training for andragogy assistants will be realised in the next reporting period.</p>	
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Employment



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Objective: Encouraging participation of working age Roma persons in the formal labour market			
Encourage the inclusion of working-age Roma persons in the formal labour market, improve their employability, employment and economic empowerment, especially of Roma persons from the category of multiply disadvantaged unemployed persons.			
Total budget	Action Plan does not express cumulative funds intended for the area of employment policy		
Indicator	Total unemployed Roma on the NES register included in the active employment policy measures		
Baseline (2016)	Roma men 2,457	Roma women 1,851	Total population 146,891
Turning point (2017)			
Planned budget (2017)	RSD 2.8 billion of total funds intended for realising active policy measures RSD 550,000,000 of additional funds allocated in the Budget Fund for vocational rehabilitation and encouraging employment of persons with disabilities (PwD). Additional funds are planned in the budgets of the LSGU and IPA 2012 programming cycle.		
Spent budget (2017)	RSD 2,367,914,426 (84.57% of available funds for realising active employment policy measures). RSD 476,031,568,53 (86.55% of available funds of the Budget Fund intended for vocational rehabilitation and encouraging employment of persons with disabilities). When considering agreed liabilities from 2017 to be paid in 2018 (RSD 73,968,431.47), budget realisation shall be at the level of 100%. RSD 367,325,837 allocated by the local self-government units (LSGU).		
Achievements (2017)	Roma men 3,058	Roma women 2,421	Total population 154,236
Special objective 3: Encourage the inclusion of working-age Roma persons in the formal labour market, improve their employability, employment and economic empowerment, especially of Roma persons from the category of multiply disadvantaged unemployed persons.			
Operational objective 1: Increase the share of working-age Roma in the formal labour market.			
Measures implemented under objective 1 in 2017			
M.1	Establish national databases of the unemployed Roma, regardless of their status in the National Employment Service register. Activities: 3.1.1.1. Conduct research on the Roma population from the aspect of employment and unemployment at the annual level 3.1.1.2. Connect NES register with the database for monitoring Roma inclusion measures at the local level	Planned budget (2017)	
		Spent budget (2017)	



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	Indicator: Total unemployed Roma on the NES register included in the active employment policy measures		
	Roma men 14,045	Roma women 12,411	Total population 618,827
M.2	Increase the coverage of the unemployed Roma by training under the active job search system.		Planned budget (2017)
	Activities:		RSD 1,600,000 intended for realising a set of measures/training courses from the active job search system
	3.1.2.1. Inform and educate Roma community members (especially persons from the category of multiply disadvantaged) on the relevance and conditions for being recorded in the NES register by: - direct work of the NES employment counsellors in branch offices and on the field – mobile teams, employment fairs, etc. – announcing a competition for civil society organisations proposals which would realise informative and educational activities on the rights and obligations of unemployed persons.		Spent budget (2017)
	3.1.2.2. Organise seminars and training courses for sensitising NES employment counsellors, as well as employment agencies for working with hard-to-employ categories of unemployed persons		RSD 1,370,752.16 i.e. 85.67% of the planned budget.
	Under the National Employment Action Plan for 2017 ("Official Gazette of the RS" No 92/2016), the active job search system comprises the following: self-efficiency training, workshop on coping with stress due to job loss, entrepreneurship development training, job club and the NES job fairs. According to the National Employment Service data, during 2017, vocational development programmes were attended by 1,442 of employees. The total of 988 employees were covered by a set of training courses of the external and internal type, as part of which 189 recording officers and employment counsellors were included in training for work with "difficult clients".		It is necessary to provide funds for the human resources development at the NES from the subject matter institution.
	Indicator: Total unemployed Roma on the NES register included in the active job search system training workshops		
	Roma men 1,977	Roma women 1,524	Total population 125,968
Operational objective 2: Prevent and reduce discrimination against the Roma in the labour market			



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M.1	Ensure effective enforcement of the Law on the Prohibition of Discrimination in the access to the labour market, employment and work-related rights.		Planned budget (2017)
	Activities: 3.2.1.1. Formulate clear indicators for recognising discrimination in the access to the labour market, employment and work-related rights. 3.2.1.2 Develop the system for provision of free legal aid		Spent budget (2017)
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
M.2	Raise societal (and Roma community's) awareness of the importance of anti-discrimination and mechanisms for the protection against discrimination.		Planned budget (2017)
	Activities: 3.2.2.1.Organise seminars and training courses om prevention of discrimination in the access to the labour market, employment and work-related rights of employees in relevant institutions, associations of employers and CSOs. 3.2.2.2.2. Announce a competition for the CSOs promoting improvement of the Roma position in the field of prohibition of discrimination in the access to the labour market, employment and work-related rights.		Spent budget (2017)
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
Operational objective 3: Increase Roma competitiveness in the labour market.			
M.1	Actively promote and develop policies and measures aimed at increasing Roma employability, with a special focus on the multiply vulnerable categories.		Planned budget (2017)
	Activities: 3.3.1.1. Support inclusion of the unemployed Roma in the labour market, especially the beneficiaries of financial social aid, via measures of active employment policy: training courses for active job search, self-efficiency training courses, Job clubs, employment fairs and entrepreneurship		RSD 1,194,080,000 for realisation of the employment subsidies programmes Spent budget (2017) RSD 1.140.418.447 for



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	development training courses. The answer has already been supplied under the item M2. 3.3.1.2. Announce public calls for allocating self-employment subsidies for the Roma. Public call for the unemployed members of the Roma population for allocation of self-employment subsidies in 2017 announced on 7 February 2017.		realisation of the employment subsidies programmes (95.51% of the projected costs). RSD 14,431,250 for realisation of the self-employment subsidies for the Roma (2.5% of total self-employment subsidies)
	Indicator: Number of self-employment subsidies		
	Roma men 94	Roma women 46	Total population 3,680
M.2	Include a larger number of the unemployed Roma in functional adult primary education programmes and further education and training programmes, with a view of enhancing their competitiveness in the labour market. Activities:		Planned budget (2017) RSD 1,037,920,000 for realisation of all programmes in the system of further education and training



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	3.3.2.1.Include larger number of Roma persons in the Functional Adult Primary Education Programme A programme from the system of further education and training – functional adult education, it entails gaining primary education and competences for performing simple tasks. The programme is intended for unemployed persons without primary education and is realised in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development. The programme included the total of 684 Roma persons in 2017 (of which 384 Roma women). 3.3.2.2. Organise programmes of paid work practice, internship and other forms of gaining work experience for young Roma persons in institutions at the national and local level Apprenticeship programme (defined by the National Employment Action Plan for 2017) covers 5 Roma persons 4 of which are Roma women.		Spent budget (2017) RSD 32,640,362 for realising the Functional Adult Primary Education Programme within the total spent funds intended for realising the programme from the system of further education and training RSD 16,711,083 allocated for 684 Roma persons. The total sum of RSD 526,937,762 for realising the apprenticeship programme was paid, of which the sum of RSD 643,548 was allocated for 5 Roma persons
	Indicator: Number of Functional Primary Education attendees		
	Roma men 500	Roma women 384	Total population 1,336
	Indicator: Number of apprenticeship programme attendees		
	Roma men 0	Roma women 5	Total population 4,094
Operational objective 4: Stimulate employment and economic empowerment of the Roma, with particular focus on multiply vulnerable categories			
M.1	Develop and implement affirmative actions of financial and non-financial support in order to enhance employment and economic empowerment of Roma business activities. Activities: 3.4.1.1. Develop sustainable programmes of financial		Planned budget (2017) RSD 1,194,080,000 for realising the employment subsidies programme



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	<p>support to private sector employers for recruiting Roma persons – According to the NES data, supported by the subsidy for recruiting unemployed persons from the category of hard-to-employ persons, the total of 231 Roma persons were employed during 2017 (of which 122 Roma women) by the employers belonging to the private sector. Furthermore, the programme of gaining practical knowledge for persons without qualifications, concerning entering into a labour relation, covered 9 Roma persons (of which 4 Roma women).</p> <p>3.4.1.2. Announce a competition for proposals of civil society organisations projects encouraging and developing the following: - traditional Roma occupations, - cooperatives and other forms of Roma associations, - agricultural development for the Roma living in the country and beneficiaries of the FSA (financial social assistance) wanting to start agricultural production and/or animal husbandry.</p>		<p>Spent budget (2017)</p> <p>RSD 1,140,418,447 for realising the employment subsidies programme (95.51% of the projected amount).</p> <p>RSD 570,946,497 allocated for recruitment of hard-to-employ persons subsidies</p>
	<p>Indicator: Number of hard-to-employ persons followed by the subsidy for recruiting unemployed persons by the private sector employers</p>		
	Roma men 109	Roma women 122	Total population 3,667
M.2	<p>Encourage development of Roma entrepreneurship</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>3.4.2.1. Provide support for development of entrepreneurship via: - training services, - monitoring services, - counselling services, - support in equipment via available programmes</p> <p>In accordance with the Regulation on determining the Programme of standardised set of services for macro, small and medium enterprises and entrepreneurs in 2017 realised via accredited regional development agencies– ARDA ("Official Gazette of the RS", No 8/2017) and the Regulation on the amendments to the Regulation on determining the Programme of standardised set of services for macro, small and medium enterprises and entrepreneurs in 2017 realised via accredited regional agencies ("Official Gazette of the RS", No 33/2017) the funds in the amount of RSD 35,562,554 were allocated for</p>		<p>Planned budget (2017)</p> <p>RSD 35,562.00</p>



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	<p>realising the Programme. The total of 15 ARDA participated in the Programme implementation in the period from April to December 2017. The total amount of information provided to the current and potential entrepreneurs is 12,350. Information was provided by phone, email, to the beneficiaries in person and via media. During 2017, there were 143 training courses organised for the beginners in business with the total of 1,993 attendees, whereas in other modules there were 155 training courses with the total of 1,487 attendees. During the period of realisation of the Programme the total of 2,304.5 counselling hours were dedicated to the Programme beneficiaries. Mentoring service was provided to 116 business entities, while the number of hours envisioned by the Decision regarding the business entities was 3,725. The total of 159 promotions was organised.</p> <p>Based on the Regulation on determining the Programme of support for small enterprises for equipment purchasing in 2017 ("Official Gazette of the RS", No 13/2017), including the support measure for small enterprises for purchasing new production equipment in 2017, the funds in the amount of RSD 567.7 million were allocated. The Programme managed to process the total of 425 requests of business entities during the given short period of which 396 requests were approved in the period of the following two years; owing to the purchasing of the equipment, recruitment of the total of 1,630 of new workers is planned. Total realised investment amounts to RSD 2.83 billion.</p> <p>Having in mind that all the programmes implemented by the Ministry of Economy open for all target groups and national minorities, without discrimination, there are no data how many Roma persons participated in the support programmes.</p> <p>According to the National Employment Service data, for the total of 194 unemployed Roma persons were beneficiaries of educational services during 2017 (74 Roma women) in the NES business centres, funds were allocated for 140 persons (46 Roma women), while the mentoring services were used by three persons.</p>	<p>Spent budget (2017)</p> <p>RSD 24,633,812.48</p>
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	Indicator: number of beneficiaries of educational services in the NES business centres		
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
	194	74	
Operational objective 5: Integrate the Roma employment policy into local economic development.			
M.1	Strengthen capacities and stimulate dialogue and cooperation among stakeholders of importance for the development of local economic policy and employment policy Activities: 3.5.1.1. Include the measures of employment of Roma persons in local employment action plans followed by participation of CSOs 3.5.1.2. Strengthening the capacities of local self-government units and other social stakeholders in the local community for the analysis of the labour market, implementation of measures and evaluation of the local action plan effects. Continuous support provided to local self-government units in creating and implementing local employment action plans (LEAP) has resulted in submitting 125 requests for programme co-funding or active employment policy measures envisioned by the LEAP in 2017. Based on the decision of the minister competent for employment affairs, the total of 118 requests were approved from 29 March 2017. Out of 115 signed agreements with the local self-government units on organising mutual rights and obligations in realising the programme and active employment policy measures, 109 of them were realised. For the purpose of ensuring the chance for exchanging experiences among the local self-government units and local employment councils on the process of the LEAP realisation, receiving information on potential problems and obstacles they are facing in the process, which can be overcome in the process of preparing the National Employment Action Plan for 2018, as well as on the potential forms of employment support serving the function of improving the process and quality of delivering the LEAP as the reaction to the condition, needs and possibilities of local labour market, the Ministry of Labour, Veteran and Social Affairs and the National Employment Service realised four regional meetings together with the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Team, GIZ project, in the period May-July 2017, on the subject „Role of the local self-government units in realising the objectives of employment policies“, with participation of 166 of 70 local self-government		Planned budget (2017)
			Spent budget (2017) 863,200,255



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	units, branch offices and NES Directorate, MLVSA, other institutions and social partners, sponsors and experts. during the meetings, in the form of <i>peer-review</i> , current condition and challenges were presented concerning the local labour markets, including the information and examples of good practice in realising the LEAP, novelties in the field of employment policy, realisation of active employment policy measures in 2016 and 2017, projects „Encouraging employment of young people“ and “Support in implementing the Employment and Social Policy Reform Programme (ESRP) focusing on the employment policy and increasing employability of young people“, as well as the results of the analysis “Assessment of fields, scope and effects of the LEAP in the period 2010 – 2016“. The results of the meetings are seen in mutual conclusions, having the form of employment according to the needs of the local labour market, and among the local self-government units. For the purpose of providing additional operational support to the local self-government units in the processes of development of local employment policies, Guidelines for producing the LEAP and a Guide for intermunicipal planning of employment policy, were presented during a daily cycle of training courses for the NES representatives and local employment councils realised during November 2017, with the support of the IPA 2012 project.	
	Indicator: Number of persons covered by the active employment measures envisioned by the LEAP	
	Roma men 1,438	Roma women 583 Total population 8,912
Operational objective 6: Increase the number of the Roma employed in public authorities.		
M.1	Stimulate the employment of the Roma in institutions at the local and national level, in agreement with the local self-government bodies and in accordance with fiscal limitations. Activities: 3.6.1.1. Develop and strengthen the network of coordinators for the Roma issues, including the increase of their number, in accordance with the local needs, for the purpose of realising a closer cooperation with other relevant mechanisms for improving the position of the Roma persons 3.6.1.2. Form mobile teams (consisted of coordinators for Roma issues, a health mediator, a teaching assistant and the NES and SWC representatives) on the local level for the purpose of encouraging intersectoral cooperation 3.6.1.3. Improve information on employment opportunities by	Planned budget (2017)
		Spent budget (2017) As part of regular tasks and work tasks of employment councillors



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	way of the civil society organisations Various activities were realised via funded association projects for the purpose of giving a chance to young Roma people to take active participation in improving their own position with regard to the social environment, and all with the aim of achieving a more successful socialisation and emancipation of the target population. Young people gained knowledge and skills for easier and more efficient job search.		
	60 Roma men and Roma women		Total population
Operational objective 7: Legalise the work of non-formally employed Roma persons, especially individual collectors of secondary raw materials, and introduce waste management in the system at the local self-government level.			
M.1	Legalise the work of non-formally employed Roma persons		Planned budget (2017)
	Activities: 3.7.1.1. Analyse the reasons of work of a significant number of the Roma persons in grey economy Report No 4/2017 on implementing the Action Plan for Chapter 23 from January 2018 – analysis of the reasons of work of a significant number of the Roma persons in grey economy: Problems and possible solutions developed at the proposal of the Human and Minority Rights Office supported by the funds of the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).		Spent budget (2017)
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
M.2	Determine the legal status of persons collecting and classifying waste Activities: 3.7.2.1. Monitor implementation of the Law on Waste Management in the segment pertaining to the prohibition of disposal of the recyclable waste material 3.7.2.2. Encourage LSGU to work on arranging the waste management issues via public-private partnerships by taking into consideration interests and resources of the secondary raw material collectors by applying the following: - development of local plans envisioning inclusion of individual secondary raw material collectors into legal routes of waste management, - development of local planning documentation, - granting subsidies to individual secondary raw material collectors for		Planned budget (2017)
			Spent budget (2017)



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	purchasing required equipment		
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population

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HEALTHCARE			
Objective: Improve the health of Roma persons, improve access to healthcare services and enable full realization of the right to healthcare in the healthcare system of the Republic of Serbia.			
Improve the health of Roma persons, improve access to healthcare services and enable full realization of the right to healthcare in the healthcare system of the Republic of Serbia			
Total budget	Budget 2015= RSD 33,631,000.00 (269,000€) Budget 2016= RSD 32,131,000.00 (257,000€) Budget 2017= RSD 38,000,000.00 (304,000€) Total: RSD 103,762,000 (830,000€)		
Planned budget (2017)	RSD 38,000,000 (304,000€)		
Spent budget (2017)	RSD 29,501,557 (250,000€)		
Indicator			
Baseline (2016)	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
	43,879	47,407	143,150
Achievements (2017)	Roma men	Roma men and women	Total population
	44,768	48,508	146,108
Indicator	Coverage by health insurance (16+)		
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women		Total population
	92.6 %		93.2 %
Achievements (2017)	Roma men and women		Total population
	92.7 %		96.8 %
Indicator	Self-assessment of unfulfilled need for healthcare (% of 16+ population)		
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women		Total population
	31.5 %		20.3 %
Achievements (2017)	Roma men and women		Total population
	27.8 %		15.8 %
Indicator	Health self-assessment (% of population reporting good or fairly good health)		
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women		Total population
	54.8 %		63.5 %
Achievements (2017)	Roma men and women		Total population
	51.6 %		56.5 %
Indicator	Use of preventive health services (% 16+ population)		
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and a women		Total population
	59.1 %		67.5 %
Achievements (2017)	Roma men and women		Total population
	59.2 %		73.1 %
Indicator	Number of vaccinated Roma persons		



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Baseline (2011)	Roma men and Roma women	Total population
Achievements (2017)	Roma men and women	Total population
	1,576	

Source: *Regional research on the Roma position implemented by the UNDP* with the support of DG NEAR, in cooperation with the World Bank in consultation with the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, during 2011 and 2017.

Operational objective 1: Develop a supporting environment for development and health of Roma persons.		
Implemented measures within the objective 1 in 2017		
M.1	Increase the number of Roma persons using public health programmes and activities affecting unfavourable conditions for development and health of Roma persons in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, with the emphasis on those whose vulnerability is most prominent	Planned budget (2017) RSD 30,131,000 (255,300 €)
	Activities: 4.1.1.1. Organise periodic field visits to Roma families in view of analysing the needs by health staff and/or health mediators of the local health centre 4.1.1.2. Support CSOs with regard to the activities contributing to the preservation of health of Roma persons (improvement of hygienic and epidemiological conditions in Roma settlements, increase of the compulsory immunization coverage, improvement of reproductive health, prevention of chronic non-communicable diseases, improvement of the nutritional status of infants and toddlers in Roma settlements, reduction of addiction diseases and other risks).	Spent budget (2017) RSD 24,932,573 (211,000€)
	Number of visits to Roma population: 36,709 Number of vaccinated Roma persons: 1,576 Number of preventive examinations of Roma women: 1,456 Number of theme-based workshops: 1,512	
Operational objective 2: Improve the development and health of Roma children.		



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M.1	Improve access to timely and comprehensive antenatal healthcare and ensure target preventive programmes in Roma community for pregnant women Activities: 4.2.1.1. Realise regular examination for pregnant women through outpatient gynaecological examination and visits of the health centre domiciliary service 4.2.1.2. Realise educational support programmes for pregnant women by health mediators and civil society organisations and special meals for pregnant women	Planned budget (2017)
		Spent budget (2017)
M.2	Increase the coverage of Roma children by immunisation and ensure programme for improving nutrition of Roma children Activities: 4.2.2.1. Organise regular immunisation campaigns in informal Roma settlements 4.2.2.2. Monitor nutritive status of Roma children via regular outpatient and field examinations 4.2.2.3. Organise special meals for children younger than 5	Planned budget (2017)
		Spent budget (2017)
M.3	Improve capacities of health workers from domiciliary, paediatric and counselling services to be able to respond to the development needs of Roma children and adolescents Activities: 4.2.3.1. Increase the coverage of Roma population by services of development counseling through stationary and field work	Planned budget (2017)
		Spent budget (2017)
Operational objective 3: Improve the health of Roma persons in the field of chronic non-communicable disease and reproductive health		
M.1	Improve access to services for the protection of the reproductive health of women and early diagnosis of chronic non-communicable diseases Activities: 4.3.1.1. Improve access to services for the protection of the reproductive health	Planned budget (2017)
		Spent budget (2017)



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	4.3.1.2. During implementation of the colon, cervix and breast carcinoma screening programme, ensure coverage of Roma population in informal settlements	
M.2	Increase the level of information and awareness of Roma persons regarding the risky with respect to preserving health Activities: 4.3.2.1. Provide information to Roma population on the consequences of risky behaviour for health	Planned budget (2017)
		Spent budget (2017)
	Number of Roma women who are beneficiaries of reproductive health protection services has increased by 540 Number of health and promotional materials: 13,072 Number of promotional activities regarding indication of harmful consequences of inadequate nutrition, smoking and alcohol abuse and other risk factors: 7,869 Number of realised visits to pregnant women: 1,420 Number of health mobile units: 20 Number of distributed promotionally adequate materials regarding the harmful consequences of inadequate nutrition: 8,300 Number of informed Roma persons on the counseling office regarding non-communicable diseases (primarily on diabetes):82	Total population
Operational objective 4. Improve access to quality healthcare without discrimination		
M.1	Define and legally regulate an adequate programme of education for the post of healthcare mediator through formal education as well as a programme of their continuous professional development 4.4.1.1. Prepare the programme for training new and professional development of the existing health mediators	Planned budget (2017)



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	4.4.1.2. Implement the analysis of needs for the purpose of improving the access to health mediator services by the beneficiaries 4.4.1.3. Ensure financial funds in the budget of the Republic of Serbia for hiring health mediators 4.4.1.4. Collective data collected by the health mediators to be entered in the integrated database on the Strategy implementation	Spent budget (2017)
M.2	Ensure mechanisms for informing and protecting the rights of Roma persons in the field of healthcare at the level of health institutions Activities: 4.4.2.1. Organise training courses for health workers on the protection of patients from discrimination, especially while working with the Roma national minority members 4.4.2.2. Organise a campaign for raising the information level of the Roma persons on the patient rights in the healthcare field	Planned budget (2017)
		Spent budget (2017)
Operational objective 5: Promote healthy lifestyles and improve the coverage of Roma persons by preventive healthcare activities.		
M.1	Organise healthcare-educational work and education of Roma persons in informal settlements on healthy lifestyle and improve hygienic and epidemiological conditions Activities: 4.5.1.1. Organise public-health activities (cleaning the settlement, improving access to potable water, deratisation, disinsection...) for the purpose of improving hygienic and epidemiological conditions The total of 11,357 planned interviews of health mediators and public health institutes with the Roma population members were conducted for the purpose of informing on the health risks and healthy life style. 4.5.1.2. Organise educational activities with young Roma persons on the consequences of risky behaviour against health	Planned budget (2017)
		Spent budget (2017)



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	Activities with the aim of reducing violence in relationships were realised via projects funded by the Ministry of Youth and Sports by raising the awareness, knowledge and skills of the youth with regard to recognising violence and protection mechanisms, improving health of young women and men, promoting health and prevention of risky behaviour of the youth as well as reducing unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases.	
	Roma men and women	Total population
	522	12,000

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Person tasked with reporting	
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Date	(of submitting the report)

Housing	
Objective: Improve the housing conditions for Roma persons	
Improve the housing conditions for Roma persons in the Republic of Serbia through ensuring legal security of the housing status, availability of services, materials, facilities, infrastructure, financial affordability, suitable housing conditions and availability, suitable location and cultural adequacy, as defined by the international standards on the right to adequate housing, ratified by the Republic of Serbia.	
Total budget	
Planned budget (2017)	
Spent budget (2017)	
Indicator	Percentage of population with access to electricity



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Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women	Total population
	83.7 %	97.8 %
Turning point (2017)		
Achievements (2017)	Roma men and women	Total population
	88.0 %	97.6 %
Indicator	Percentage of population with access to water supply network	
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women	Total population
	70.4 %	97.4 %
Turning point (2017)		
Achievements (2017)	Roma men and women	Total population
	78.8 %	96.2 %
Indicator	Percentage of population with connection to public sewage or waste water tanks	
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women	Total population
	57.5 %	85.4 %
Turning point (2017)		
Achievements (2017)	Roma men and women	Total population
	62.4 %	75.8 %
Indicator	Percentage of population living in a household where waste is never collected	
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women	Total population
	25.8 %	22.1 %
Turning point (2017)		
Achievements (2017)	Roma men and women	Total population
	24.5 %	18.2 %
Indicator	Number of persons per household	
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women	Total population
	0.6	1.08
Achievements (2017)	Roma men and women	Total population
	0.76	1.29
Indicator	Over-crowdedness rate (% of population)	
Baseline (2011)	Roma men and women	Total population
	74.0 %	31.7 %
Achievements (2017)	Roma men and women	Total population
	64.9 %	20.8 %

- Source: *Regional research on the Roma position implemented by the UNDP with the support of DG NEAR, in cooperation with the World Bank and in consultation with the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, during 2011 and 2017.*



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Operational objective 1: Provide programme and information preconditions for improving the housing conditions for Roma persons		
M.1	<p>Provide programme preconditions for improving the housing conditions for Roma persons</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>2.1.1.1. Coordinate development and adoption of local action plans for improving the housing conditions through producing a national housing strategy, to encompass improvement of the Roma housing conditions – first stage (in accordance with the Law on Construction Planning)</p> <p>2.1.1.2. Educate associations advocating improvement of the Roma position on the subject of discrimination and exercise of the housing rights, as well as providing free-of-charge legal aid to the settlement inhabitants</p> <p>2.1.1.3. Provide professional and financial support to the local self-government units in implementing local action plans and other measures for improving the Roma housing conditions</p> <p>Project envisions support for establishing Mobile teams for Roma social inclusion in 20 LSGUs and development of Operational plans on an annual level, harmonised with the Local Action Plans for Social Inclusion in LSGUs where they were adopted (Požarevac, Kraljevo, Subotica, Kovačica, Čukarica, Niš, Pećinci, Ruma, Stara Pazova, Bačka Palanka) or their adoption is ongoing (Vladičin Han, Lajkovac). Operational plans support implementation of objectives in all five strategic priority areas (education, employment, housing, health and social protection). In LSGUs where there are other sectoral plans relevant for Roma social inclusion (e.g. Šabac – Strategic plan for social policy – Roma Action Plan; Beočin - LAP for Roma employment), Operational plans contribute to realisation of objectives of the given strategic documents and concurrently define the objectives and activities which shall, in accordance with the capacities and mandate of the Mobile Team, contribute to realisation of measures and objectives defined in each priority of the Roma Social Inclusion Strategy in the RS 2016 -2025. In LSGUs where there are no valid LAPs for Roma social inclusion or other sectoral action plans (e.g. Vlasotince, Bor, Aleksinac, Zaječar, Zrenjanin, Paraćin) Mobile Team Operational Plan activities are harmonised with the objectives and measures of the Roma Social Inclusion Strategy in the RS 2016 -2025. Mentor support to Mobile Teams is provided continuously from March 2018 to July 2019 and it contributes to continuous</p>	<p>Planned budget (2017)</p> <p><u>2.1.1.3</u> <i>Financial support –</i> €1,500,000 i.e. RSD 184,500,000 (as part of the Action Plan for CH 23 IPA 2013, Technical support project “Improving the living and housing conditions of Roma persons currently living in informal settlements”) <i>Grant –</i> €9,500,000 i.e. RSD 1,168,500,000 (TA project “Improving the living and housing conditions of Roma persons currently living in informal settlements”)</p> <p>Spent budget (2017)</p>



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	<p>improvement of the Mobile Team capacities in accordance with the individual needs of each of the 20 pilot LSGUs. a special segment of support is directed toward strengthening the capacities of the Mobile Team in the area of project management (planning, implementation, monitoring). Aside from making a contribution to the implementation of Roma social inclusion LAPs and other relevant strategic documents, support for LSGUs shall be provided in establishing a monitoring mechanism, while the members of the Mobile Team shall be trained for realisation of the process.</p> <p>Improvement of operational planning of Mobile Teams is envisioned by the Project as well as for 20 LSGUs which were included in the IPA 2012 via realisation of training for producing Operational Plans for 2019 in accordance with the improved methodology.</p> <p>Inclusion of Roma representatives in the planning processes, implementation and monitoring of Roma social inclusion measures of realisation in local communities shall be supported through training to be realised during 2019.</p>							
	<table> <tr> <td>Roma men</td><td>Roma women</td><td>Total population</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	Roma men	Roma women	Total population				
Roma men	Roma women	Total population						
M.2	<p>Ensuring information preconditions for improving the housing conditions for Roma persons</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>2.1.2.1. Establish and keep spatial database of substandard to monitoring Roma settlements for the purpose of monitoring the housing conditions in such settlements</p>	<p>Planned budget (2017)</p> <p>RSD 502,430 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia)</p> <p>Spent budget (2017)</p>						
	<table> <tr> <td>Roma men</td><td>Roma women</td><td>Total population</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	Roma men	Roma women	Total population				
Roma men	Roma women	Total population						
Operational objective 2: Create spatial and planning preconditions for improving housing conditions in sustainable Roma settlements.								
M.1	<p>Development of planning documentation</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>2.2.1.1. Allocate budget funds on the LSGUs level, for developing or adapting urban plans for the areas with Roma settlements which shall be an integral part of the total regulation and improvement of Roma settlements or one of the first stages of local action plan implementation</p>	<p>Planned budget (2017)</p> <p><u>2.2.1.1.</u> RSD 4,186,920 (budget of the LSG) RSD 381,300,000 i.e. EUR 3,100,000 in 2017 and 2018 (IPA 2014 – Technical</p>						



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	for improving the Roma housing conditions		assistant project Roma Inclusion)
	2.2.1.2. Ensure professional and financial support to LSGUs from IV and V category of development for developing and adapting suitable planning documentation for Roma settlements		<u>2.2.1.2</u> <i>Professional assistance</i> – RSD 251,215 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia)
	Roma Housing Project provides support in developing technical documentation in 12 LSGUs in the Republic of Serbia. The following LSGUs from IV and V category of development are included, with specific projects: Aleksinac: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road infrastructure construction project for a street in the Cara Dušana settlement (cadastre approvals are expected for the beginning of construction) Utility infrastructure construction project - sewage in the Cara Dušana settlement (cadastre approvals and other information are expected for the beginning of construction) Vlasotince: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road infrastructure construction project for two streets in the Crni Marko settlement (ongoing) Utility infrastructure construction project - sewage in Vlasotince (ongoing) 		<i>Financial support</i> - €1,500,000 i.e. RSD 184,500,000 (as part of the Action Plan for CH 23 IPA 2013, Technical support project “Improving the living and housing conditions of Roma persons currently living in informal settlements”) <i>Grant</i> - €9,500,000 i.e. RSD 1,168,500,000 (TA project “Improving the living and housing conditions of Roma persons currently living in informal settlements”)
			Spent budget (2017)
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
M.2	Participation and exchange of information		Planned budget (2017)
	Activities: 2.2.2.1. Owners of the spatial plan development are to be obliged to ensure early participation of the Roma settlement inhabitants through tender terms or a financing contract, as well as to enable full participation during the spatial plan drafting followed by professional support 2.2.2.2. The local self-government unit shall deliver data on the produced and amended spatial plans to the competent ministry with the substandard Roma settlements within its scope for the purpose of recording the substandard Roma settlements in the existing GIS database and continuous monitoring of the condition and improvement of the housing conditions in such		<u>2.2.2.1.</u> RSD 1,018,440 (budget of the LSG) <u>2.2.2.2.</u> Funded as part of the activity 2.1.2.1.
			Spent budget (2017)



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	settlements		
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
Operational objective 3: Create normative preconditions for resolving property-legal status of the lots and facilities in sustainable Roma settlements with the ultimate goal of legalising and improving housing facilities in such settlements			
M.1	Improvement of the legal and strategic framework		Planned budget (2017)
	Activities: 2.3.1.1. Regulation of the property-legal status of the lots and facilities in the local action plan for improving the Roma housing conditions on the local self-government level 2.3.1.2. Conduct measures and activities for ensuring a more efficient spatial regulation and settlement sanitation with as little as possible demolition of the existing facilities, ensure security of the legal status of the facilities and land, and increase sustainability of traditional Roma settlements		<u>2.3.1.1.</u> Funded as part of the activity 2.1.1.3 <u>2.3.1.2. RSD 942,057</u> (Budget of the Republic of Serbia)
			Spent budget (2017)
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
M.2	Providing support to the population		Planned budget (2017)
	Activities: 2.3.2.1. Determine the number of facilities intended for legalisation in the settlements predominantly inhabited by the Roma persons 2.3.2.2. Conduct measures for determining possibility of legalisation of the existing residential facilities in the substandard settlements possible to be kept in the existing locations 2.3.2.3. Ensure legal and technical assistance for Roma persons to be able to regulate their property-legal issues regarding the facilities and lots for the purpose of facility legalisation, through organised and financially supported work of municipal offices for free-of-charge legal aid, local residential estate agencies and competent authorities in the local self-government, civil society organisations, law offices, etc. followed by exercise of equal rights of Roma women		<u>2.3.2.1. RSD 24,442,560</u> (as part of the regular budget funds of the LSGUs) <u>2.3.2.3. RSD 2,087,815,653</u> (Budget of the Republic of Serbia) IPA 2016 Programme, direct grant for SCTM, total programme worth – EUR 4,000,000 i.e. RSD 492,000,000) – (support for at least 10 substandard Roma settlements for receiving legal aid and support in legalising residential facilities)
			Spent budget
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population



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		(2017)
	Roma men	Roma women
		Total population
Operational objective 4: Improve utility infrastructure in Roma settlements.		
M.1	Improving the strategic framework and work with the population	
	Activities: 2.4.1.1. Include construction of utility infrastructure in Roma settlements in the local action plan for Roma inclusion 2.4.1.2. Ensure financial support for civil society organisations to be organising and implementing activities pertaining to raising the awareness and informing the inhabitants of Roma settlements on the possibilities of exercising the rights to a more prominent accessibility of utility services, on the importance of utility regulation of the settlement, as well as the regulation and preserving the environment, on the needs of regular payment of the bills and possibilities and methods of attaining subsidies for paying utility bills.	
	Planned budget (2017)	
	Spent budget (2017)	
	Roma men	Roma women
		Total population
M.2	Infrastructure construction	
	Activities: 2.4.2.1. Build the required infrastructure within the existing utility companies on the LSGU level Ha as well as the connection to the facilities followed by obtaining the adequate construction and use permits. As part of the project Roma Housing, no activities concerning obtaining construction and use permits are envisioned. As for the infrastructure construction, details are presented in the following item. 2.4.2.2. Ensuring support for funding or co-funding the infrastructure network construction and connection to the facilities in Roma settlements by the competent ministry in the local self-governments which have previously produced the required technical documentation regarding the given works with their own funds or the funds they independently attained As part of the grant scheme "Improving residential solutions and infrastructure in Roma settlements" in several projects, activities include infrastructure network construction in Roma settlements.	
	Planned budget (2017)	
	Spent budget (2017)	



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	<p>Overview per projects/locations is the following:</p> <p><i>Municipality of Odžaci (project coordinator is Housing Centre):</i> Infrastructure construction – sewage and road in the Roma settlement Čerga in Deronje.</p> <p><i>City of Novi Pazar:</i> Infrastructure construction – sewage, road, water supply network, street lights in the Roma settlement Vražogrnci - Blaževo. Connection of households built within the project to the infrastructure network.</p> <p><i>Municipality of Boljevac:</i> Infrastructural improvement in the Roma settlement (Hajduk Veljka St.) – sewage, connection to the water supply network, street reconstruction.</p> <p><i>Municipality of Opovo:</i> Aside from building residential houses for Roma persons within the project, the following infrastructural elements are envisioned – access road, connection to the water supply network and power supply network.</p> <p><i>City of Smederevo:</i> Infrastructure network construction – sewage in the settlement Mali Krivak, considered as one of the biggest Roma settlements in Serbia.</p> <p><i>Municipality of Loznica:</i> Infrastructure network construction – roads and canal regulating stream flow in the Roma settlements Lešnica, Jadranska Lešnica and Dobrić.</p> <p><i>City of Niš:</i> Improvement of infrastructure in the Roma settlement Stočni trg – infrastructural improvement of the settlement, where new residential possibilities for Roma persons will be built.</p>		
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
Operational objective 5: Improve housing standards			
M.1	Improving the legal and strategic framework		Planned budget (2017)
	Activities: 2.5.1.1. Include the measure of improving the existing facilities with Roma inhabitants in the local action plans for Roma inclusion and ensure budget funds for their realisation		Spent budget (2017)
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population



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M.2	Developing residential programmes and providing technical and financial support		Planned budget (2017)
	Activities: 2.5.2.1. Provide legal, engineering and financial assistance to Roma persons upon obtaining and developing legal and technical documentation and performing construction works on extension and reconstruction of residential facilities 2.5.2.2. Provide support in establishing construction companies and residential cooperatives where Roma persons from local communities will be employed and provide them with participation in construction works performance on improving Roma housing with the aim of ensuring economic strengthening of families and individuals 2.5.2.3. Develop various residential programmes for improving the existing residential facilities in Roma settlements 2.5.2.4. Ensure technical and financial support to local self-governments for independent or cooperative work with civil society organisations, cooperatives and companies on improving the existing facilities in Roma settlements, in accordance with the objective of improving energy efficiency of residential facilities.		<u>2.5.2.3.</u> RSD 1,884,114 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia) RSD 1,884,114 <u>2.5.2.4.</u> Funded as part of the activity 2.5.2.3.
			Spent budget (2017)
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
Operational objective 6: Implements programmes of social housing residential construction			
M.1	Developing and implementing residential and social housing programmes		Planned budget (2017)
	Activities: 2.6.1.1. Develop special lease housing programmes as part of the residential support programme to meet the specific needs of vulnerable groups of population, including Roma persons, determine the scope of required funds and ensure funds for realisation of such programmes 2.6.1.2. Prepare locations for building social housing apartments (land preparing, passing a suitable plan or spatial project) 2.6.1.3. Finding a solution for internally displaced Roma persons from Kosovo and Metohija who mostly do not plan		<u>2.6.1.3.</u> RSD 30,000,000. (Budget of the Republic of Serbia) RSD 635,500,041 i.e. €5,166,667 (Funded as part of the Action Plan for CH 23)
			Spent budget (2017)
			Source: Budget of the



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<p>their return, as well as for the returnees in the readmission process, through funding the programme of support for improving the living conditions of internally displaced persons and other programmes intended for returnees in the readmission process, including Roma persons</p> <p>The total of RSD 252,520,000,000 was allocated during 2017 for programmes of support for IDP (repurchase of a village household, assignment of construction material for facilities whose construction has commenced, economic strengthening).</p> <p>Aside from budget funds, during 2017, the project "Assistance to IDP in the Republic of Serbia" was realised and funded by the UNHCR in the amount of RSD 81,9000,000.00, through the executive partner NGO Bizija in cooperation with the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration. The total of 63 village households were repurchased for the purpose of closing formal and informal collective centres. Over 90% of beneficiaries of the aid are Roma persons.</p> <p>Commissariat for Refugees and Migration and the UNHCR conducted a research "Condition and Needs of Displaced Persons" during 2017 indicating that there are approximately 17,000 IDP in need and/or 72,000 persons in need in the territory of the Central Serbia.</p> <p>Share of Roma persons in the population of internally displaced persons in need (14.5) is significantly larger than the share of Roma persons in the total number of population of the Republic of Serbia (2.14%), as well as from the share of Roma persons with respect to the total population of internally displaced persons (10.5%).</p> <p>Therefore, during 2017, the sum of RSD 36,615,000.00 was allocated for aid programmes for internally displaced Roma persons.</p> <p>When it comes to the returnees, based on the Readmission Agreement, the total of RSD 16,760,000.00 for aid programmes were allocated during 2017 (repurchase of a</p>	<p>Republic of Serbia</p> <p>IDP – RSD 36,615,000.00</p> <p>Source: Sponsor funds RSD 73,710,000.00</p> <p>Returnees based on the Readmission Agreement RSD 150,000,000.00</p>
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	<p>village household, assignment of construction material for facilities whose construction has commenced, economic strengthening).</p> <p>According to the data of the Ministry of Interior, out of the total number of returnees recorded in the Migration Profiles for 2017, based on the Readmission Programme who realised their return in 2017 in the Republic of Serbia (3,933 persons), as much as 94% of them returned to the Republic of Serbia via border crossing OBC Belgrade (Airport "Nikola Tesla). Roma persons were present with 76% in the total number of returnees in 2017 according to the Readmission Agreement of recorded persons by the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration, in the second place there were returnees of Serbian nationality with share of 15%, while approximately 9% of returnees were mostly of Albanian and Bosniak nationality. Since the Roma persons are most endangered among the returnees, aid programmes are generally directed toward municipalities with returnees of Roma nationality, with a minor percentage of returnees of Bosniak nationality. Municipalities in the south of Serbia, where majority of returnees are of Albanian nationality, do not apply for the aid programmes at the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration.</p> <p>Therefore, 90% of aid programmes were directed toward returnees of Roma nationality, i.e. the sum of RSD 15,000,000.00 was allocated for the aforementioned group of returnees.</p> <p>During 2017, the total of 105 internally displaced Roma families were residentially taken care of through the aid programmes, repurchase of village households and assignment of construction material, while 21 ID Roma families were supported through economic strengthening programmes.</p> <p>When it comes to the returnees, based on the Readmission Agreement, the total of 17 Roma families were residentially taken care of through repurchase of village households and assignment of construction material during 2017, while 33 Roma families were supported through economic strengthening programmes.</p> <p>Note: ID Roma persons and returnees according to the</p>	
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	<p>Readmission Agreement can apply for all the programmes of improving living conditions; however, there is no liability of declaring their Roma nationality.</p> <p>Programmes of the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration are directed toward residential housing and economic strengthening of internally displaced persons and returnees according to the Readmission Agreement. As previously implied, Roma persons are significantly represented in aid programmes for their percentage share in both populations, and additionally for their degree of vulnerability. Basis of successful integration is seen in residential housing and economic strengthening in the first place. Additional value is that support programmes are implemented in cooperation with the local self-government units, which by recognising problems faced by the ID Roma persons or returnees based on the Readmission Agreement apply for Public Calls of the Commissariat and implement such programmes. Therefore, active participation of the local self-government units in solving problems of such persons is ensured.</p>		
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
M. 2	<p>Developing financial and institutional mechanisms and support for beneficiaries</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>2.6.2.1. Strengthen the capacities of local self-government units, local residential estate agencies and other non-profit organisations for implementing the residential support programmes</p> <p>2.6.2.2. Organise training courses for the staff working in organisations and institutions responsible for work with the social housing beneficiaries with regard to the exercise of the rights to adequate housing</p> <p>2.6.2.3. Monitor condition and changes in the social and financial status of households for the purpose of timely provision of support to those households facing with difficulties in paying lease and other duties</p> <p>2.6.2.4. Organise workshops for the social housing beneficiaries on their obligations and mechanisms for exercising the rights pertaining to residential subsidies, supplements, benefits, etc.</p>		<p>Planned budget (2017)</p> <p><u>2.6.2.1. and 2.6.2.2.</u> RSD 41,820 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia)</p> <p>Spent budget (2017)</p>



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	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
Operational objective 7: Determine and implement suitable international standards of displacement of unsustainable substandard settlements			
M.1	Harmonisation of the legal framework with the international standards		Planned budget (2017)
	Activities: 2.7.1.1. Draft a suitable legal enactment with defined procedures for eviction and displacement in accordance with the General Commentary No 4 and No 7 of the UN Committee for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, including guidelines and recommendations for local self-governments and other relevant stakeholders in order to ensure actions in line with the international standards on human rights		<u>2.7.1.1.</u> RSD 753,621 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia)
			Spent budget (2017)
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
M.2	Drafting a study on the reasons and justification of displacement, informing the residents of the settlement, ensuring adequate accommodation and providing socio-economic support		Planned budget (2017)
	Activities: 2.7.2.1. Prior to the commencement of displacement, a detail study on the reasons and justification of displacement is to be drafted, with timely consulting and informing of the settlement residents 2.7.2.2. Provide adequate housing for displaced families with the state support provided by LSGUs in the manner in which adequate accommodation is defined in the General Commentary No 4 and No 7: right to adequate housing of the UN Committee for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 2.7.2.3. Include workers, coordinators for Roma issues and other experts in the community through the social work centre activities, during and after displacement, with regard to mediation between the Roma population and general population for the purpose of increasing mutual trust, and especially sensitising general population for the needs and rights of Roma persons 2.7.2.4. Provide displaced population with continuous support and socioeconomic support within institutions		<u>2.7.2.1</u> RSD 840,213 per study (planned within the LSGU budget) <u>2.7.2.3. и 2.7.2.4.</u> RSD 628,038 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia)
			Spent budget (2017)



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	through the social work centres as well as after displacement to new locations	
	Roma men	Roma women
Operational objective 8: Raise the cultural standard of Roam population, economic strengthening and preserving cultural identity		
M.1	Determine the concept of culture and encourage intercultural exchange	Planned budget (2017)
	Activities:	Spent budget (2017)
	2.8.1.2. Encourage intercultural exchange	
	Roma men	Roma women
		Total population
M.2	Establish Roma cultural centres and adopt programmes of Roma settlements development	Planned budget (2017)
	Activities:	<u>2.8.2.2. and 2.8.2.3.</u> RSD 251,166 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia)
	2.8.2.1. Establish Roma cultural centres and/or improve the capacities of the existing institutions in larger sustainable settlements or in LSGUs with at least 300 Roma inhabitants	Spent budget (2017)
	2.8.2.2. Define recommendations for local self-governments in accordance with Article 23 of the Law on Culture	
	2.8.2.3. Design a development programme as comprehensive spatial and residential-cultural unities	
	Roma men	Roma women
		Total population

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SOCIAL PROTECTION			
Objective: Improve access to social protection services and availability of financial benefits for the purpose of reducing poverty and increasing social inclusion of Roma persons in the local community.			
Improve access to social protection services and availability of financial benefits for the purpose of reducing poverty and increasing social inclusion of Roma persons in the local community.			
Total budget			
Indicator			
Baseline (2016)	Roma men	Roma women	Total population



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Turning point (2017)			
Planned budget (2017)			
Spent budget (2017)			
Achievements (2017)	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
Operational objective 1: Implement solutions in the system of social protection giving advantage to supporting families upon providing support to children at risk, including special support to Roma families			
M.1	Identify methods for a more intense inclusion of Roma children in local social protection services, improve the support programmes for mothers and strengthen counselling roles in work with the Roma families Activities: 5.1.1.1. Strengthen the counseling role of the social work centres in cooperation with the CSOs, preschool and school institutions and work on a more intense inclusion of Roma children and youth in local social protection services, with a special emphasis on children without parental care and improving the programmes of support for mothers via: - initiating and developing programmes of support for Roma families with children at risk of abuse, dropping out of school, deprivation from family, - developing programmes of improving prevention and support with the aim of reducing the number of juvenile and forced marriages and juvenile pregnancies in the Roma community, Activities directed toward suppression of children marriages are realised as part of the project "Improving the system of social protection for the purpose of family strengthening", by the Republic Institute for Social Protection with the support of the UNICEF. However, realisation of the project commenced in 2018, and therefore, the activities shall be the subject of the following report. - additional engagement of associates from the Centre for Social Work who are of Roma nationality, - initiating development of services and programmes, e.g. job fairs, education fairs, cooking lessons for pregnant women (for ensuring good quality nutrition and education), peer tutoring 5.1.1.2. Develop mechanisms for targeting population from multiply deprived areas via: - drafting instructions for improving the records of the centres for social work on Roma persons from multiply deprived areas,		Planned budget (2017) <u>5.1.1.1.</u> RSD 513,033 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia) <u>5.1.1.2.</u> RSD 240,711 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia)
			Spent budget (2017)



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<p>- hiring associates from the Centre for Social Work who are of Roma nationality with the aim of improving field work,</p> <p>- exchanging examples of good practice among the LSGUs</p> <p>Standards for services of family associates and occasional fostering services have been established with overall inclusion of Roma families and there is ongoing work on further development of such services and expansion of the network.</p> <p>Draft Rulebook on Intense Support has been developed, the adoption of which is expected in the second half of 2018.</p> <p>Counselling and therapeutical as well as socioeducational services are available free-of-charge in the municipalities where they were developed, both for Roma and non-Roma population. Implementation of the Regulation on designated transfers enables development of such services in less developed LSGUs, and it is up to them which of the services shall be provided in accordance with their needs.</p> <p>Training courses for employees for providing psychosocial support for social reintegration represent a continuous process and are implemented through attending accredited training programmes (available on the site of the Republic Institute for Social Protection www.zavodsz.gov.rs).</p> <p>Provincial Institute for Social Protection developed an analysis of the process conducting a pilot project of the service of occasional family accommodation at the beginning of 2017 with recommendations for further steps in the direction of service provision.</p> <p>For the purpose of contributing to the development of culturally competent practice in social work, the Provincial Institute for Social Protection worked on developing a Guide on culturally competent practice during 2016 and 2017. A Task Force appointed for drafting the Guide on culturally competent practice also produced a Glossary on culturally competent practice printed in 500 copies and distributed to all centres for social work and to centres for family accommodation and adoption in the Republic of Serbia. The objective of the Guide was to make contribution to the improvement of knowledge, skills and values used in practice and policy of social work and protection of culturally diverse population; improvement of cultural competences of employees working in the system of social protection and thus the improvement of the social protection services quality. for the purpose of promoting the Guide and Glossary on culturally competent practice the total of six round tables was realised with the attendance of 134 professionals from the centres for social work and centres for family accommodation and</p>	
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	<p>adoption. Furthermore, 10 one-day instruction courses were realised aimed at implementing the Guide on culturally competent practice in social work with participation of more than 200 professionals from the system of social protection. After completing the project, the Provincial Institute for Social Protection composed a two-day programme of training during 2017 called “Recongnising and respecting diversity” – culturally competent practice in providing social protection, directed at the Training Programme Accreditation Board.</p> <p>According to the records on issued licences for providing services of social protection kept by the Ministry of Labour, Emplyoment, Veteran and Social Affairs, there are 359 licensed service providers in Serbia, until 15 March 2018. As follows: for the accommodation service with support – 7, for in-house assistance service – 68, for the reception centre service - 2, for the service of daily accommodation for children and juveniles with behavioural problems – 4, for the service of a personal child companion – 9, for the shelter service – 10, for the service of daily accommodation for children and juveniles with developmental issues – 34, for the service of a personal assistant – 12, for the service of dorm accommodation – 212, for the service of SOS phone for women with the experience of violence – 1.</p>							
	<table> <tr> <th>Roma men</th><th>Roma women</th><th>Total population</th></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	Roma men	Roma women	Total population				
Roma men	Roma women	Total population						
M.2	<p>Improve the system of prevention, protection, support and reintegration of human trafficking victims of Roma nationality, as well as the system of reintegration of asylum seekers and returnees, among whom there is a large number of Roma persons, based on the Readmission Agreement</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>5.1.2.1. Develop and institutionalise local protocols for protection of children living and/or working in the street, as well as the asylum seekers and returnees according to</p>	<p>Planned budget (2017)</p> <p><u>5.1.2.1. and 5.1.2.2.</u> RSD 20,500,041 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia)</p> <p><u>5.1.2.3.</u> RSD 235,545 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia)</p> <p><u>5.1.2.4.</u> RSD 15,000,000</p>						



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	<p>the Readmission Agreement, and ensure sustainable local services in the community (reception centres) and programmes contributing to protection and social inclusion – as part of the project "Improving the system of social protection with the aim of family strengthening", realised by the Republic Institute for Social Protection and supported by the UNICEF, activities directed toward suppression of child marriages are realised within the Component 4 of the project "Inclusion of the centres for social work and other relevant providers of social services and suppression of the child marriages practice". However, project realisation has started in 2018, and therefore, the activities shall be the subject of the upcoming report.</p> <p>5.1.2.2. Plan and develop activities directed toward prevention, reduction and child labour abuse</p> <p>5.1.2.3. By implementing the Regulation on designated transfers, ensure support for children living and/or working in the street: - by increasing the use of capacities of social protection institutions providing services of occasional accommodation,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - by providing shelter services via licensed service providers, especially in bigger urban surroundings, - by developing services of intense support for Roma families with children <p>5.1.2.4. Improve the system of reintegration of asylum seekers and returnees, among whom there is a large number of Roma persons, based on the Readmission Agreement</p> <p>The Government adopted the Regulation on determining dangerous child labour ("Official Gazette of the RS" No 53/2017) representing a list of jobs not to be performed by children by any means. Implementation of the Regulation started on 1 January 2018 and shall be conducted by all the competent labour inspections starting with the labour inspection and ending with the social protection inspection. A Protocol on labour inspection procedures as well as the Instruction on the procedures of the centres for social work regarding the protection of children against child labour abuse have been passed. Internal teams for protection of</p>	<p>(Budget of the Republic of Serbia)</p> <hr/> <p>Spent budget (2017)</p>
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	children living in the streets were formed in the centres for social work (in 115 out of 140 CSW). - Through the FFA (financial family allowance) project "Engagement and support on the national level for reducing the occurrence of child labour abuse" the process of developing a Road Map was realised in cooperation with the MLEVSA and the Centre for Social Policy. <i>The Road Map for Eliminating Child Labour Abuse in Serbia, Including the Worst Forms of Child Labour 2018-2022</i> is a document encompassing activities that affect a more efficient prevention and elimination of the consequences of child labour abuse. It was harmonised through a consultation process of the key stakeholders: ministries, national bodies and councils, social partners and civil society organisations and it was realised in the period from August to the first half of November 2017.		
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
Operational objective 2: Improve availability of financial benefits for children and Roma families enjoying such rights, with a special emphasis on financial social benefit, assisted living benefit and child allowance.			
M.1	Improve the system of financial benefits intended for vulnerable families Activities: 5.2.1.1. Facilitate exercise of financial benefits for vulnerable families, especially for families with disabled children and developmental issues, in accordance with the principles of social inclusion: - conduct analysis of the needs for the Regulation amendments, - based on the analysis results, initiate relaxation of the criteria, amendments to the Law on Social Welfare and the Law on Financial Assistance to Families with Children 5.2.1.2. Conduct surveillance over the exercise of rights to registering residence at the address of the centre for social work 5.2.1.3. Monitor budget funds planning for funding the system of free-of-charge legal aid through the programme structure of the local self-government units – annual level		Planned budget (2017) <u>5.2.1.1.</u> RSD 4,814,958 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia) <u>5.2.1.2.</u> RSD 104,673 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia) <u>5.2.1.3.</u> RSD 2,087,815,653 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia)
			Spent budget (2017)



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	<p>Law on Financial Assistance to Families with Children was adopted in December 2017. The Law shall be implemented as of 1 July 2018. New legal solutions facilitate the procedure of exercising the rights, expanding the scope of beneficiaries. This Law established additional child protection coming from vulnerable groups (children with developmental issues or disabilities, children without parental care and children beneficiaries of financial social aid).</p> <p>This Law introduced a new right to other compensations guaranteed by birth, care and special child care. This right enables a large number of women to get the opportunity for exercising the right to other compensations in the period following the childbirth for the first time ever. This regards the women who have never been employed, but instead independently perform business activities, who are owners of agricultural properties, or who are hired on the account of temporary job activities, temporary service agreements, copyright agreements or the ones who were unemployed at the time of childbirth and did not exercise the right to financial assistance on the account of their unemployed status, but who were working in the period relevant for exercising the right in question. Furthermore, this right will be enjoyed by women who are agricultural taxpayers.</p> <p>This way, special protection shall be provided for women who are performing labour activities on the account of flexible forms of work and who will not be forced to quit their activities, i.e. who will independently decide whether, and in what form they will reduce their activities, and the state shall be the one to provide compensation on the account of previous contributions for mandatory social and/or pension and disability insurance.</p> <p>Special support will be provided to parents on the account of first childbirth having regard to the increased expenses required in the first days after childbirth.</p> <p>The new legal solution shall enable reduction of required documentation, direct payments envisaged by exercising the rights, as well as the better security of employed new mothers whose regular income in the period of maternity leave will not be conditioned by the will and current financial disposition of the employer.</p>	
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	<p>It is particularly important to emphasise that in the period of using the income compensation during the maternity leave, child care leave or special child care leave, the ministry competent for social issues shall take the role of the employer by performing calculation and payment guaranteed by the rights directly to the beneficiary's account.</p> <p>The Law defines the following rights to financial assistance for the families with children:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) income compensation during the maternity leave, child care leave or special child care leave; 2) other compensations on the account of childbirth and child care leave or special child care leave; 3) parentall allowance; 4) child allowance; 5) compensation of expenses made by staying in a preschool institution for children without parental care; 6) compensation of expenses made by staying in a preschool institution for children with developmental issues and disabilities; 7) expenses recourse for staying in a preschool institution for children from families with financial difficulties. <p>The right to child allowance under more favourable conditions is enjoyed in case of children without parental care covered by guardian care and children in single-parent families in the form of 20% higher census and 30% higher amount of child allowance, and for children in single-parent families where the other parent is unknown, has deceased without exercising the right to family pension or who has become fully and permanently incapable for work without gaining the right to pension, in which case census increases by 30% as well as the amount of child allowance.</p> <p>When it comes to children with developemntal issues and disabilities, their right to child allowance s exercised also under more favourable conditions, including 20% higher census for exercising the right and 50% higher amount of child allowance. In case of meeting the conditions for increasing the amount of child allowance on several accounts, the Law prescribes the raise limitation of up to 80% of the regular child allowance amount.</p> <p>The Law allows the possibility of introducing the</p>	
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	<p>beneficiaries of financial social assistance into the right to child allowance without the repeated assessment of the financial status of the family, with the evidence that the child regularly attends school.</p> <p>Regardless of the financial conditions, the right to child allowance shall be exercised by the family with a child with developmental issues already enjoying the right to assisted living allowance according to the conditions prescribed by the Law on Social Protection.</p> <p>Duration of enjoying the rights of the child allowance beneficiaries shall be extended until the end of the regular secondary education, and not later than 20 years of life, and in case of children who started education somewhat later out of justified reasons, until turning 21.</p> <p>There is an ongoing drafting of bylaws: <i>Regulation on more detailed conditions and method of exercising the right to financial assistance for families with children and the Rulebook on the conditions, procedure and method of exercising the right to absence from work for the purpose of providing special child care as well as producing an application software for paying the rights prescribed by the Law on Financial Assistance to Families with Children.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- There is an ongoing work on amending the Law on Social protection at the ministry the adoption of which is expected during 2018. Amendments to the Law have for their objective a more just distribution within the budget possibilities, increase of participation of older beneficiaries of financial social assistance, efficient measures of social inclusion for working-age beneficiaries of financial social assistance, change of age structure of beneficiaries, a and better targeting should lead to the improvement of adequacy of financial social assistance. The possibility of increasing the amount of financial social assistance is considered as part of the legal amendments allocated for children as well as facilitation of conditions for exercising the rights with respect to owning intangible property with regard to	
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	<p>senior perosns and the ones incapable of work.</p> <p>- The amount of financial social assistance from October 2017 is: for an individual (right beneficiary) RSD 8,201,00, for every adult person RSD 4.101,00 and for children RSD 2,460,00.</p> <p>In the period from 1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017, the Ministry of Interior designated with a decision residence for 506 persons on the address of competent Centres for Social Work, among whom majority is of Roma nationality, living in informal settlements, after which they were issued with personal documents.</p>		
	Roma men	Roma women	Total population
Operational objective 3: Improve the system of collecting data in the field of social protection so that it provides clear and regular data on the exercise of rights of Roma persons in the field of social protection (services in the community for children and adults, access to financial social assistance, assisted living beenfits, child allowance, residential accommodation for children and adults, etc.).			
M.1	Establish a regular reporting on the exercise of rights of Roma persons in the field of social protection.		Planned budget (2017)
			Spent budget (2017)
	Activities: 5.3.1.1. Develop a methodology on collecting data classified according to the nationality with regard to the exercise of rights in the field of social protection, in accordance with the Law – As part of the annual reports of the Centres for Social Work, collected by the Republic Institue for Social Protection, there are data on the total number of Roma beneficiaries kept in the records of the Centre for Social Work. Data on the beneficiaries’ nationality are collected as part of the Reception List filled out when a beneficiary is recorded in a CSW ("becomes a beneficiary"). According to Article 5 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, every registration of national minority members is prohibited which obliges them to declare their nationality against their will. A beneficiary may but is not obliged to declare his/her nationality. Hence, national perception, according to the law, can be perceived as a relevant and adequate information only if the		<u>5.3.1.1.</u> RSD 4,814,958 Budget of the Republic of Serbia <u>5.3.1.2.</u> RSD 1,925,996 (Budget of the Republic of Serbia)



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	<p>beneficiary willingly declares him/herself as a member of a particular nationality. In case the beneficiary refuses to declare his/her nationality or declares some other nationality, a professional at the CSW shall not estimate whether the beneficiary is of Roma nationality based on other characteristics. Having regard that a large number of Roma beneficiaries does not declare their nationality, records in the centres for social work are incomplete, i.e. they only show the number of Roma persons who have willingly declared their nationality. According to the reports of the CSW for 2016: Number of Roma beneficiaries recorded in the CSW in 2016 was 75,450. Out of the total number 49% were males, and 51% were females. When it comes to the age structure of the Roma beneficiaries 36% was composed of children, 12% of youth, 43% of adults and 9% of senior citizens.</p> <p>5.3.1.2. Ensure reporting through the integrated database on Strategy implementation by the Republic Institute for Social Protection, Provincial institute for Social Protection, Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs and a body competent for Strategy management, on the exercise of rights in the field of social protection of Roma persons</p> <p>REPUBLIC INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION</p> <p>As part of the annual reports of the Centres for Social Work, collected by the Republic Institute for Social Protection, there are data on the total number of Roma beneficiaries kept in the records of the Centre for Social Work.</p> <p>Data on the beneficiaries' nationality are collected as part of the Reception List filled out when a beneficiary is recorded in a CSW ("becomes a beneficiary"). According to Article 5 of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, every registration of national minority members is <i>prohibited which obliges them to declare their nationality against their will</i>. A beneficiary may but is not obliged to declare his/her nationality. Hence, national perception, according to the law, can be perceived as relevant and adequate information only if the beneficiary willingly declares him/herself as a member of a particular</p>	
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Roma men	Roma women	Total population
36,970	38,480	

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Budget

Budget 2017	
Budget overview	
Total planned budget for the implementation of the Action Plan for implementing the Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma Persons in the RS 2016-2025 for the period from 2017 – 2018 in 2017	
Total national budget spent for the implementation of the Action Plan for implementing the Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma Persons in the RS 2016-2025 for the period from 2017 – 2018 in 2017	
Total national budget spent for the implementation of the Action Plan for implementing the Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma Persons in the RS 2016-2025 for the period from 2017 – 2018 in 2017	
Total regional/local budget spent for the implementation of the Action Plan for implementing the Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma Persons in the RS 2016-2025 for the period from 2017 – 2018 in 2017	
Total IPA funds spent for the implementation of the Action Plan for implementing the Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma Persons in the RS 2016-2025 for the period from 2017 – 2018 in 2017	
Total spent budget for the implementation of the Action Plan for implementing the Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma Persons in the RS 2016-2025 for the period from 2017 – 2018 from other sources	
Budget by priority area	
Total budget spent for education in 2017	
Total budget spent for housing in 2017	
Total budget spent for employment in 2017	
Total budget spent for healthcare in 2017	
Total budget spent for social protection in 2017	
Total other expenses in 2017	
Budget of other expenses regarding the Action Plan for implementing the Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma Persons in the RS 2016-2025 for the period from 2017 – 2018	
Total budget for the functioning of the National Focal Point and office in 2017	
Total budget for the functioning of the multidisciplinary body in 2017	
Total budget spent for raising institutional capacity	
Total budget spent for fundraising in 2017	
Total budget spent for international cooperation in 2017	
Total budget for reporting, monitoring and evaluation in 2017	
Total budget spent for other expenses in 2017	



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Impact Assessment

Code	Indicator	Roma persons			Total population	Year	Source	Definition
		Roma men	Roma women	Total				
Education								
EDU1	Rate of attendance of preschool education	4.9	6.5	5.7	50.2	2014	MICS	Percentage of children aged 36-59 months attending the education programme in early childhood
EDU2	Rate of inclusion in primary education	84.5	85.2	84.9	98.5	2014	MICS	Percentage of children of primary school age currently attending primary or secondary school (adjusted net rate).
EDU3	Rate of inclusion in secondary schools	28.0	14.9	21.6	89.1	2014	MICS	Percentage of children of secondary school agekoja currently attending secondary school or college (adjusted net rate).
EDU4	Rate of inclusion in higher education	0.1 (0.23% of male students)	0.11 (0.18% of female students)	0.08 (0.18 of student s – total)	54.2	2016/2017 school year	Enrolled student s SORS	Percentage of students compared to population aged 19-24
EDU5	Drop-out rate in primary education	14.5	13.3	13.8	0.8	2014	MICS	Percentage of children of primary school age currently not attending school
EDU6	Drop-out rate in secondary education	55.7	73.0	64.2	8.0	2014	MICS	Percentage of children of secondary school age currently not attending school
EDU7	Rate of completion of primary school	65.1	62.8	64.0	93.4	2014	MICS	Number of children attending the final grade of primary school (excluding the repeaters) divided by the number of children of expected age when finishing primary school (age when they should



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								be attending final grade of primary school)
EDU8	Rate of completion of primary education							
EDU9	Rate of completion of higher education							
EDU10	Literacy rate							
EDU11	Rate of attendance of special schools							
EDU12	Rate of attendance of segregated schools				n/a			
Employment								
EMP1	Employment rate							
EMP2	Rate of informal labour							
EMP3	Unemployment rate							
EMP4	Rate of long-term unemployment							
EMP5	Last employment experience							(months)
EMP6	Rate of unemployment experience							
EMP7	Youth employment rate							
Healthcare								
HEA1	Rate of access to health insurance							
HEA2	Infant mortality rate			12.8		2014	MICS	Possibility that an infant will die in the period between its birth and first birthday .

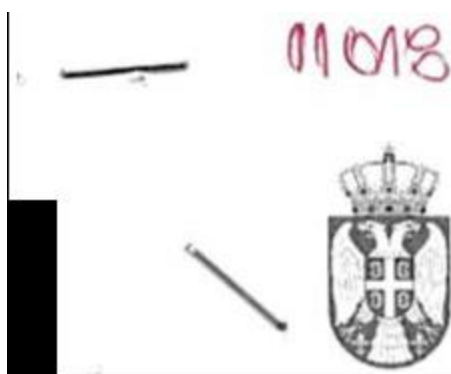


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HEA3	Life expectancy at birth							(year)
Housing								
HOU1	Homelessness rate							
HOU2	Rate of access to water			97.7	99.5	2014	MICS	Percentage of household members using improved potable water sources
HOU3	Rate of access to electricity			89.7	99.7	2014	MICS	Percentage of households with electric power
HOU4	Rate of ownership of property documents							
HOU5	Rate of separate neighbourhood				n/a			
HOU6	Overcrowding							(square meters)
Cross-cutting issues								
CRC1	Poverty risk							
CRC2	Average earnings							(national currency)
CRC3	Poverty rate							
CRC4	Discrimination rate							
CRC5	Rate of registration of residence							



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Republic of Serbia
MINISTRY OF
EUROPEAN INTEGRATION
Belgrade, Nemanjina 34
Number: 337-00-99/2018-02
Date: 24 April 2018

30.4.18 [illegible]

[STAMP]
ADMINISTRATION FOR JOINT SERVICES
OF THE REPUBLIC BODIES

CLERK'S OFFICE - 9

RECEIVED 30/04/2018
Body [...illegible...]
363 01 021 - 01 - 173/18

MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE
Professor Dr Zorana Mihajlović, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister



Government of the Republic of Serbia
Coordination Body for the Implementation of the
Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma

Nemanjina 22-26

11000 Belgrade

[illegible] 27.4.18

SUBJECT MATTER: Request for the submission of information for the preparation of report on application of the integrative public policies for the Roma in 2017 of the participating countries in the "Roma Integration 2020" project

Dear Sir/Madam:

Referring to your letter number 021-01-00173/2018-01 the Ministry of European Integration informs you of the following:

The Law on Amendments and Supplements in Article 13a of the Law on Ministries ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No 44/14, 14/15, 54/15, 96/15-other law, and 62/2017) defines the scope of work of the Ministry of European Integration, whose jurisdiction includes the coordination of international development assistance and cooperation with donors, through established mechanisms and close cooperation with state bodies.

In this regard, the Ministry of European Integration supports through its operation the competent institutions in achieving full implementation of the inclusion policies regarding all marginalized social groups in order to create the conditions for them to effectively enjoy all guaranteed rights without discrimination. The Ministry of European Integration, through its participation in the competent working bodies, and also by endeavouring via donor coordination mechanism, invests maximum effort in providing further support to activities that affect the quality of life and social inclusion of Roma men and women in the Republic of Serbia.

We also inform you that the Ministry of European Integration, in its capacity as technical secretariat of the National IPA Coordinator, monitors the projects financed by European Union funds, which are implemented in a decentralized/indirect system of management. NIPAC TS, within the framework of the regular reports on the implementation of IPA projects and programs, prepares twice a year the Report of the Sectoral Monitoring Committee, which is delivered to the Sectoral Monitoring Committee for consideration and adoption. One of the formed Monitoring Committees pertains to the human resources and social development sector which considers and adopts the Report on Implementation of the IPA projects/programs in this sector, which, among other things, monitors the implementation of all actions aimed at the inclusion of the Roma population conducted by competent user institutions. A brief overview of the projects supported by the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance targeting the inclusion of Roma men and women is attached to this letter.

The person responsible for monitoring projects in the human resource development and social development sector is Milica Radovanović Dumonjić, and you can contact her for any



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additional information at the e-mail address: milica.dumonjic@mei.gov.rs; or at the telephone number 011 3061 205.

Sincerely,

MINISTER

[signature illegible]

Jadranka Joksimović

[STAMP]

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA; BELGRADE;
MINISTRY OF [EUROPEAN] INTEGRATION;
COAT OF ARMS



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Information on projects financed by the IPA fund in the period 2013-2018

Projects aimed at supporting the inclusion of Roma in the Republic of Serbia provided significant incentives for the implementation of inclusion policies and contributed to the general improvement of the position of the Roma population. Within the Human Resources Development and Social Development sector, in the previous programming cycles, support has been programmed which is specifically directed to the Roma as a targeted group. Within the IPA National Programmes, support programmes are envisaged which are designed to support Roma inclusion:

The **IPA 2013** programme envisages a measure aimed at enhancing the inclusion of Roma. This measure is implemented through two contracts: a technical assistance contract and a contract for the implementation of the grant scheme:

Technical support for improving the living and housing conditions of the Roma population currently living in informal settlements: The main goal of the project is to improve inclusion (participation) of the members of Roma population, through the Grant Scheme support in implementing the actual improvement of physical infrastructure in Roma substandard settlements; support to existing mobile teams in the implementation of predetermined activities and the assistance in creating new mobile teams with a view to increasing the inclusion of the Roma population; Preparation of technical documentation for creation of provisions for permanent housing solutions for members of the Roma population in substandard settlements whose realisation would be financed within the framework of both future IPA projects and funds from other donors and national funds.

Implementation of permanent housing solutions and improvement of physical infrastructure in Roma settlements: The main goal of the project is to increase inclusion (participation) of the Roma population via:

- Improving infrastructure in substandard Roma settlements
- Construction of apartments for social housing of Roma population necessary for eviction
- Reconstruction or upgrading of facilities owned by natural persons

The **IPA 2014** programme has allocated EUR 4.1 million for the improvement of social inclusion of the Roma through further investment in sustainable housing solutions, better access of Roma students to the education system, and the strengthening of national Roma inclusion mechanisms at the local level. The action will improve the social inclusion of the Roma in terms of improving housing conditions, state mechanisms for Roma inclusion and scholarships. Improving housing conditions in substandard Roma settlements will be prerequisite for their socio-economic empowerment and employment.

In order to ensure the continuity of the comprehensive support to the inclusion of Roma in the IPA 2016 Action Program, further support is foreseen for social inclusion of the Roma through support for further development of inclusion mechanisms at the local level, grant scheme focusing on employment, increasing the inclusion of Roma children in the nursing education system and reducing discrimination, as well as preparing further technical documentation for sustainable housing



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solutions. For this intervention, a direct grant of 4 million Euros was realized for the Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities, which is coordinating the implementation of the foreseen activities in cooperation with relevant national institutions.

Sectoral budgetary support for education is realised through IPA Action Programme for 2016. It will be used, inter alia, to approach the Roma as a target group, particularly via measures to prevent dropping out of the educational system.

Within the programming process of the **IPA 2018 National Programme** the focus has been on providing social housing, which would include the most vulnerable population groups in Serbia – refugees, internally displaced persons, victims of domestic violence, Roma, persons with disabilities. Social housing is an extremely important factor in achieving social balance and it provides for the integration of all groups into social community, including those whom we consider vulnerable.



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Contribution of the Ministry of State Administration and Local Self-Government

Regarding the submitted form for the Report of the countries participating in the project "Roma Integration 2020" on the implementation of the integrative public policies for the Roma in 2017, we inform you that the Ministry of State Administration and Local Self-Government, in accordance with its competence and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma Men and Women in the Republic of Serbia for 2016-2025, for the period 2017 to 2018, is not the implementer of any of the activities mentioned in the report.

Having in mind the importance of integrative policies related to the Roma, we inform you that the Ministry of State Administration and Local Self-Government keeps the Register of National Councils of National Minorities and that we have very good cooperation with the National Council of the Roma National Minority and that we support certain activities that this National Council realizes.

Also, the Ministry supported Draft Operational Conclusions from the seminar: "Social Inclusion of Roma Men and Women in the RS in 2017", first of all, models of the Rulebook on Organization and Systematization of Job Positions in the City and Municipal Administration were prepared, where job position of coordinator for Roma issues is envisaged, prepared by the SCTM, as part of the activities of supporting cities and municipalities in the implementation of the Law on Employees in AP and LSGU.

As for the area of Access to Personal Documents, the Ministry will continue to monitor the situation in the area of exercising the right to registration of births in the registrar record books, primarily through the proper application of the registration prescribed in the Rulebook on the procedure for issuing birth certificates for children and the application form in a medical institution with regard to the electronic registration system.

We point out that the Republic of Serbia has provided systemic solutions and established mechanisms that all persons who are not registered in the registrar record book of births can exercise this right in accordance with the Law on the Registrar Record Books, while having the obligation to apply the regulations of other state bodies (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs ..)

ANNEX

EDUCATION

Specific objective 1

Operational objective 1

Measure 1: Within the third component of the *Inclusive preschool education* project, activities of support to parents and guardians are developed for achieving the educational function of family, grants are provided for the programmes of some underdeveloped municipalities, and subsidies for the stay of children from the most vulnerable families in the



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preschool institutions (PSI). Local self-governments will apply for grants and will have the leading role in the local municipal teams which are supposed to develop programmes of support for children and families in cooperation between local self-government and non-government bodies, all interested stakeholders and communities. Around 300 expert associates, teachers, and directors of preschool institutions have been informed about the forthcoming activities and invited to be initiators, to publically represent the initiation and creation of the programmes of support for early childhood of the Roma children at the level of the local community, and be active members of the teams on the local level. Within the realisation of the projects, the activities related to the creation of the *Parent Support Resource Catalogue – review of domestic resources and international examples of good practice*. The purpose of the Catalogue is to provide the decision makers with the insight in the existing good practice and resources at domestic and international level, and motivate all those invited to further work on the promotion of the support to women who have just given birth and parents of children from birth to the age of six. In the school 2016/2017, the shorter-period programmes cover the following:

- up to 6 hours a day: **8.081 children**
- up to 6 hours a day, up to three times a week: **275**

In September 2017, in cooperation with the MESTD, Roma Education Fund proceeded providing support to the “Toy Libraries as a Support to Roma Children Learning Outcomes”. New phase of the project is realised from September 1, 2017, until August 31, 2018. The main issue the project might tackle is a lack of involvement of the Roma children in the integrated support services to early child development, which as a consequence has the lack of good quality education in the early age. The project defines the realisation of the campaign for **active inclusion of a large number of Roma children and parents in the development programmes for the early development support** and inclusion of 172 Roma children, aged 4.5 to 5.5 in PSI on 6 locations. In addition to that, the project introduces **additional programmes in the preschool education in the form of classes realised by Roma mothers**. Additional support is provided through the programmes of toy libraries as an alternative early development programme on 6 locations, working on the promotion of development in family setting. Results:

- Out of 174 Roma children aged 3 - 5.5, 14 were enrolled into kindergarten; the increase by 3% of the enrolment rate compared to the initial study. The enrolment rate in kindergarten is 8%; out of 116 children at the age for mandatory preparatory preschool programme (PPP), 102 were enrolled into PPP for the school year 2017/2018; the enrolment rate for PPP is 87.9%; out of 140 children at the age for the 1st grade, 127 completed the mandatory PPP and 140 were enrolled in the first grade; 523 fathers and mothers were involved in 6 toy libraries; 2009 toys and 1747 books are available; 100 mothers were involved in the reading clubs and so far there have been 63 classes.

At the UNICEF’s initiative, in partnership with the Institute for the Improvement of Education, Institute for Education Quality and Evaluation, Institute for Pedagogy and



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Andragogy of the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Belgrade, MESTD, with the support of the Swiss Office for Development and Cooperation in Serbia, on May 23, 2017 there was a conference held in Belgrade “Key dimensions of quality development in preschool education – Basis of the Preschool Education Programme”. The focus was on the offer diversity for quality short programmes and form, with the aim to increase the coverage of children with good quality preschool education. The experience was presented of PSI which increased the coverage of children from vulnerable social groups by organising various programmes and forms, among which the largest number are children of the Roma national minority. The increased enrolment of Roma children aged 3-5 in the preschool institutions is expected to bring benefits to the realisation of the “**Inclusive preschool education**” project, realised by the MESTD from the World Bank loan. MESTD realised a number of activities: study of good international practice, current situation analysis, and creation of the draft project. Three coordination meetings were organised with a wide circle of relevant institutions, the activities were divided into 3 components: coverage increase, 2. Quality increase, and 3. Increase of fairness of the preschool education system.

Component 1 aims at improving the availability of preschool education by the increase of the number of free enrolment slots for children aged from 3 to 5.5 years of age, especially for children from vulnerable social groups. The plan is to have the construction of new, reconstruction, adaptation and change of purpose of the available facilities in the local community for the realisation of preschool programmes, to create 17.000 new slots in kindergartens. The first phase includes forming the list of the potential municipalities based on the indicators: demographic conditions, social and economic development of the municipality (official classification), poverty, rural and urban area, demand (live births and demographic projections) and available facilities (current and potential). The plan realise the first component in minimum 30 first-ranked municipalities meeting the criteria defined by the Project.

Component 3 – support to children and family from vulnerable social groups, is focused on preschool children (from birth to 6.5 years of age) and their families, and includes: National promotional campaign; Ensuring grants for selected municipalities for improving the coordination and cooperation between the relevant services with the aim to provide better quality support to children and families on the local level, and subsidies for ensuring free attendance of preschool education for children from vulnerable social groups aged between 3 and 5.5 (Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran, and Social Affairs – dedicated transfers from the central level towards local self-governments). Ensuring active inclusion of the large number of Roma children in development programmes for the support to the early childhood is planned to be supported within this Project component. Namely, the focus of this component is on designing mechanism to have inter-sectorial community support to families of children aged 3 from vulnerable groups, especially Roma children. The support programmes for Rom families in the community is ongoing, focused on developing the family functionality, parent skills for the early child development, health life styles.



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Project component 2 aims at improving the quality of the inclusive preschool education. The key outcome is expected to be the realised support for the benefit and entire development of children, including the children from vulnerable group. In the previous period in three preschool institutions there was a pilot of new Preschool Education Programme Bases, development of recommendations for competence standards of the staff in preschool education and standards for facilities and equipment. In the process of strengthening of the competences of practitioners in these three preschool institutions for the implementation of new Preschool Programme Basis, there have been three project trainings realised so far ("Starting points of the Programme Basis", "Support to practitioners in introduction of the change in the context of kindergarten"; "Development of Programme Basis") for the representatives of preschool institutions (educators, expert associates, and directors) participating in the pilot (PSI "Dr Simo Milošević", Zemun: "Happy Childhood", Novi Sad, and "My Childhood", Čačak), representatives of the project team and educational advisors of school administrations in Novi Sad and Čačak. All trainings are placed on the [List of programmes of public interest approved by the Minister of Education](#). On the preliminary ranking list of municipalities, created based on the composite index (covering demographic conditions, social and economic development of the municipality, poverty, rural and urban area, and demand) to be involved in the project of these three preschool institutions take high positions – above number 30 on the ranking list.

Establishing the Practitioner Network for the support to PE with the aim of providing support to the institutions for further development of different segments of quality and fairness, and the support to the development of quality programmes and policies. Strengthening professional capacities of 50 candidates selected based on the public call, out of which, two years after, 20 members of the Practitioner Network will be selected, which is a significant human resource for the support to the implementation of various initiatives in building a quality preschool education. Candidate Capacity Strengthening Programme has been created, and the training of "Modern concept of preschool education" has been realised for the candidates in the Practitioner Network – expert associates, educators and doctoral students of higher education institutions.

Law on Fundamentals of Education System (*"Official Gazette of RS", no 88/2017, 27/18 (I) – other law, and 27/18 (II) –other law*) ensures the preconditions for creating different programmes and forms of educational work, by regulating the norm of the direct educational work with children (Article 160, paragraph 2, indent 3) on realisation of various programmes and forms, in half-day duration in preschool institutions. This created the precondition for hiring educators for the realisation of these programmes.

Project *"Kindergartens without Borders 3 – support to improvement of the children social care system and preschool education on the local level"*. The project is realised in the period from December 2016 until July 2018, with the aim to strengthen the local self-governments and PSI to develop PE policies and programmes adjusted to the needs of children and



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families. The project is realised in Belgrade PSI “Čika Jova Zmaj”, and PSI “Čukarica”) and in Zrenjanin (PSI “Zrenjanin”). All three PES have defined the facilities for the realisation of half-day programmes, out of which some require small adaptations and procurement and equipment of the selected facilities. In cooperation with the nearby institutions, the plan is to have short programmes (Library in Železnik, Sport Centre in Zrenjanin, space in the Kindergarten “Breze”). This project ensures a continuous mentorship, documentation and media promotions of all the project activities. Materials and resources incurred from during the project are uploaded on the web site www.predskolci.rs, www.cipcentar.org and FB page of the CIP centre. In June 2017, three-day trainings of the CIP centres were realised for approximately 30 educators/associates from three PSI (Step by step with a quality educational practice towards the society of knowledge for PSI). PSIs participating in the project plan and prepare the promotional activities on the local level (in June 2017, there were 6 promotional activities in three PSIs). Institutions stated the collection of data regarding the definition of the needs of children and families for half-day and short programmes. The plan is that PSIs realise at least one short programme during summer.

During the project “**Kindergartens without Borders 3 - support to improvement of the children social care system and preschool education on the local level**” in 2017 the following was realised:

- Coordination and realisation of **5 trainings in vivo** and **1 electronic training** of the CIP centre for project teams of all three PSIs within KwB3 (out of planned 3 trainings):
 - Training of project teams of preschool institutions on diversification of PE, total: **30 participants**;
 - Training “**Step by step 2**” total: **27 participants**;
 - Training “**Step by step 2**” total: **29 participants**;
 - Training “**Step by step 2**” total: **28 participants**
 - Electronic training “**Living diversity in a kindergarten**” total: **64 professionals**;
 - Training “**Planning and programming various programmes**” total: **26 participants**;
- **9 mentorship and mentoring meetings of the CIP centre with 3 PSIs** from KwB3:
- Coordination and facilitation of the total of **9 horizontal exchanges** among the three PSIs in the project KwB3 in cooperation with the CIP centre; **184 professionals** participated in the exchange;

SHORT AND HALF-DAY PROGRAMMES

- Preschool institutions realised **9 promotional activities** in cooperation with the CIP centre:
- So far, within all three PSIs there have been **10 short and 6 half-day programmes launched, covering 529 children**.



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- **PSI Čukarica launched 5 short and 2 half-day programmes, PSI “Čika Jova Zmaj” launched 3 short and 1 half-day programme, PSI “Zrenjanin” launched 2 short and 3 half-day programmes.**
- Important meetings and professional gatherings were organised and realised, including:
 - 2 national conferences on early child development (May and September 2017)
 - 1 Round table on “Challenges of inclusion in preschool education – fairness, coverage, support”,
 - 1 joint meeting on “Realised changes and future development of the initiative of “Kindergartens without Borders” project
- Numerous meetings were organised and realised with the PSI representatives in local self-governments in cities participating in the project.

Creation of the Project operational manual and Manual for the realisation of component 3 – grants to local self-governments is ongoing. On the level of local self-government data were collected to ensure an insight into the available capacities, real needs, and opportunities in the domain of the realisation of preschool education. With the aim to inform the professional public, preschool institutions and local self-government units, and to motivate them to take active participation in the forthcoming activities within the realisation of the Project, Nordic Trust Fund and World Bank Office in Serbia, with the support of the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technological Development, realised the conference “Inclusion of children from vulnerable groups in the preschool system”. In 2017, the Red Cross, within the Joint Programme for Inclusion of Roma and Marginalised Groups through Education, provided in different ways the support to the inclusion of children from vulnerable groups in preschool education, and 16 municipalities covered 322 children, out of whom 30 children are starting with the PPP, while 292 children, aged 3-5.5, should be included in the preschool education system.

Amendments to the Law on Preschool Education (*“Official Gazette of RS”, no 18/10, 101/17 and 113/17 – other law*) improved the regulation which refers to the forms and programmes of educational work. The terms “special and specialised programmes” were abolished, and the terms “different programmes and forms” were introduced as pedagogically more appropriate. In this way it is more explicit and unambiguous that PSI, apart from realising the full-day educational programme, develops other forms and programmes. Also, the intention is to motivate the founders of PSI to treat different programmes and forms as important in achieving defined objectives and principles of PE and support their realisation. New Law on Financial Support to Families with Children (*“Official Gazette of RS”, no. 113/2017*) significantly improves the support given to the inclusion of children from vulnerable social groups in the PE system through the reimbursement of the costs for children’s stay in a PE for the children of social assistance beneficiaries. Preschool children of the social assistance beneficiaries have the right to the reimbursement of the costs of children’s stay in a PE holding the verification certificate of the ministry responsible for education, in the amount of the beneficiary’s share in the service price defined by the decision of the local self-



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government. This law also regulates cost recovery for the stay of children from families with financial difficulties in PSIs. Namely, preschool children from families with financial difficulties, depending on their financial position, have the right to cost recovery for the stay of children in a preschool institution holding a verification certificate of the ministry responsible for education. The terms and conditions of cost recovery is defined by the competent authority of a local self-government unit.

“The initiative for the support of development and learning of Roma children of early age in Serbia” is realised in partnership with the Roma Education Community “Romanipen”, with the support of the Serbian Open Society Foundation and London Open Society Foundation. The initiative is realised in 15 municipalities/cities in cooperation with 16 preschool institutions and 15 Roma non-government organisations. Activities realised in 2017:

in 15 towns there were 437 families covered, 642 parents and other family members, and 681 children participated in 1 to 20 thematic workshops;

RNGOs implemented 289 workshops with parents and 292 workshops – with children, organised 84 joint activities for children and parents with the aim to connect families and local communities and create opportunities for parents and children to make plans together, learn together, spend time together, create and exchange. RNGOs realised 274 home visits covering 84 families having children up to 2 years of age. The number varies from 5 to 56 per RNGO, and this great difference among them was influenced by the number of families having children up to 2 years of age;

9 different trainings were realised in the field of acceptance of diversity and fight against prejudice and discrimination, methodology focused on children and learning, critical thinking and diversification of the programmes with 1.072 participants from PSI;

Brochure “Support for children and families in the transition from preparatory preschool programme to primary school”, disseminated to PSIs and PSs;

Mentor visits to PSIs with the aim to analyse the cooperation of the expert inclusion team, teaching assistant and educator through the joint planning and realising of measures and activities as a support system for Roma children and families in the transition from PPP to primary school;

Created transition plans for children from PPP to primary school, in cooperation with the school representatives, cooperation established between the expert associates from PSIs and PSs, agreed activities with children and pupils, and the information exchange between the educators and teachers, in terms of an additional support to the children in need; 16 PIS realising short/diversified programmes covering 247 Roma children and 604 majority population children, covering 925 parents, out of whom 284 Roma parents. Realisation covered 252 educators and expert associates and 8 teaching assistants; coverage of children has increased; number of enrolled children has increased in regular groups of full-day programme, in average from three to five children in groups from 3 to 5.5 years of age; Roma children have priority when enrolling in PSI; Intensified cooperation with RNGOs and local institutions; support to children and families is provided when they are included in the



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diversified programmes, developed cooperation with the representatives of Roma communities included in the plan creation and the activity realisation.

Measure 2: In order to ensure the continuity in attendance of preschool programmes for children who have been covered with the support of the Red Cross within the Joint Programme, a meeting was organised in June with the representatives of school administrations, directors of preschool institutions, and representatives of local self-government units from municipalities of: Zaječar, Velika Plana, Sombor, Zrenjanin, Ruma, Novi Pazar, Paraćin, Kragujevac, Knjaževac, Gadžin Han, Bela Crkva, Aleksinac, Vrbas, Smederevo, Trstenik, and Tutin.

There was a discussion on how to overcome the challenges: where children can proceed with attending a preschool programme (include them in other groups within the PSI or add children from the settlement to the existing group and include it in the Network Act /Annual Work Plan of the institution); how to ensure an educator, subsidised stay of children in PSI, support to the attendance (transport, meal, school supplies...) and plan and realise the transition activities.

Due to the data indicating that the coverage of children with the preparatory preschool programme is not complete (between 95-98%), while the coverage of children from vulnerable groups is significantly lower and is 62.9 % (data MIKS 5), starting of 2015 the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technological Development in cooperation with relevant partners, implements a continuous campaign for increasing the number of enrolled children in the preparatory preschool programme and the first grade of primary school. The campaign includes printing of flyers and posters in Romani and Serbian, communication with preschool institutions and other institutions involved in the care of children and family on the local level, establishing of local teams, creation and realisation of action plans, exchange of experience among the local communities where the coverage is complete and those where the coverage is not complete. In all these activities we try to encourage the preschool institutions to promote in their local communities the importance of early inclusion in preschool education, especially children of early age from 3 to 5.5 years, and to increase the number of educational groups in which half-day preschool programmes are realised in line with the family needs, and to find the ways to support the regular attendance of children.

Ministry of Education, Science, and Technological Development signed the Memorandum of Cooperation with the international organisation Save the Children for the North-West Balkans (SCNWB) and started the activities on the realisation of the project "Available and Good Quality Education for Roma Girls and Boys" (2017-2018). Training for teaching assistants "Development and Learning of Early Age Children" was prepared and accredited for the teaching assistants working in preschool institutions, and the plan was to include the educators who graduated in Romani from the Higher Vocational School "Mihajlo Pavlov" in Vršac. The goal of the training was to strengthen the capacities of teaching assistants in the field of early development and work in preschool institutions in the Republic of Serbia. The training was accredited and is on the list of programmes of public interest. The Manual with



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the units for each topic to be discussed in the training is planned for the participants. The expected results of the five-day training for teaching assistants:

- understand the role and responsibility towards the children, PSI, local community and families from vulnerable groups
- acquire knowledge on early development, communication skills and partnership for the preparation, creation, and implementation of support for children and parents during early development, education and during enrolment in school
- acquire knowledge necessary for taking an active role in improving the conditions for the realisation of rights, development and learning of children, through the cooperation with employees in PSIs and competent institutions in the local community
- be empowered to work on raising the awareness in the Roma community about the importance of early development and education.

The accredited module is consisted of 19 workshops: Introductory workshop, Development of Early Age Children and relevant education policies, Importance of play for preschool children, How children learn, Interaction and relations; adults-children, peers, Human and Children Rights – international and normative framework, Setting high expectations so that each child could develop his/her potentials, Significance of physical and mental safety and encouraging environment for development and learning of children and inclusion in PSE, Every child is unique and requires assistance to develop a positive picture about him/herself, Speech and language development and acquisition of the skills important for literacy, Inclusive education, Observation – basis for planning and monitoring the child development, Importance of recognising and respecting different needs of certain children or groups, Readiness and support to education and acquisition of skills for life-long learning, Importance of cooperation with families and how to support them to enrol children in preschool programmes, Support to parents to create a safe and encouraging family environment and develop skills of positive parenthood, Stress management for children, parents and teaching assistants, Psychosocial benefit and resilience of child, Closing workshop.

Within the component 3 “Inclusive Preschool Education”: Support to children and families, further improvement of preschool education of children from 3 to 5.5 years of age will be supported through: development and implementation of the communication campaign on the national level for raising the awareness about the significance of early childhood and strengthening the parents in achieving the educational function of the family; ensuring grants for minimum 30 local self-governments in order to improve the coordination and cooperation among the relevant stakeholders in providing holistic and high-quality support services to families and children aged 0-6.5 years on the local level, with the focus on the most vulnerable groups (including services in the field of health, nutrition, early screening for developmental difficulties and early support to development and learning); ensuring subsidies for the participation in preschool programmes free of charge for children from 3 to 5.5 years of age from families which beneficiaries of financial social assistance. The focus of



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the national campaign is on the raising the awareness of parents and decision makers on the local level about the importance of early years and it will intend to improve the parents' competences for encouraging the development of their children through: play, positive interaction, i.e. participation in joint activities with children and practice which support health lifestyles in family context; information of parents about the number of services available in the community (including the services in health, nutrition, early screening for developmental difficulties, social protection and early learning); and importance of attendance of preschool programmes.

Measure 3: There was an intensive work with the inter-sectoral committees in ten municipalities which got the grants for financing additional support for children and pupils, the work analysis of the inter-sectoral committees was conducted, and a Guide was prepared for the work of the inter-sectoral committees. Various analyses in this field indicated the need for strengthening the capacities of the members of the inter-sectoral committees in order to ensure the quality of their work and the adequacy of the measures of support. Within this initiative there was a work analysis of 10 inter-sectoral committees (ISC), identification of the need for additional support and conducting of the most important trainings for 10 selected ISCs, and then the basic training was designed and conducted for all 156 ISCs in Serbia. Guide for the work of ISC, info-flyers in Romani, Hungarian and Serbia, and a poster were created and distributed. Improved competences of employees for quality (inclusive) education in all 17 school administrations, covering all the educational institutions in the Republic of Serbia. The professional meetings on inclusive education were attended by: 127 national and municipal educational inspectors, 350 educational advisors – external associates, 80 directors of preschool institutions, , 250 professional associates employed in preschool institutions, 30 university professors from the faculties of education, and 137 representatives of relevant institutions on the level of local self-government. A working group was formed and the creation of the new Rulebook on additional educational, healthcare and social support to children, pupils and adults is in the process.

As an open resource for improving the competences in the domain of inclusive education of employees in preschool institutions and schools the following is available:

- Instructions for the creation of teaching material in line with the principle of universal design (available at the link http://www.mpn.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/uputstvo_za_izradu_nastavnog_materijala_univerzalni_dizajn-1.pdf), and at the web site of the project ICT4IAL European Agency for Special Needs and Inclusive Education (available at the link <http://www.ict4ial.eu/events/guidelines-accessible-information-new-technologies-education-conference-serbia>)
- A documentary recorded within the Project “Regional support to inclusive education” available at the link <https://youtu.be/aaGDAPGVRmg>
- Catalogue of assistive technology available at the link <http://www.mpn.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/KATALOG-fin-novo.pdf>



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-“Work Guide for Inter-sectoral Committees” available at the link http://www.mpn.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/FIN_Vodic-za-RAD-IRkomisije_165x235mm-3mm-prepusta-na-spoljnim-stranama-1-1.pdf, created within the project “Improving the professional support to the community – an important step in child inclusion: Strengthening the capacities of inter-sectoral committees (ISCs) in providing additional support to children for inclusion in early development and education”.

-publications created within the project “Info-line for parents – support to inclusive education”: Manual [Positive discipline in encouraging inclusive environment](http://www.mpn.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Positive-discipline-UNESCO_SRB_Final.pdf) available at the link http://www.mpn.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Positive-discipline-UNESCO_SRB_Final.pdf, and Manual [RGoing Right Way – frame for work programme for early age children](http://www.mpn.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Guidelines_srpski_final.pdf) available at the link http://www.mpn.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Guidelines_srpski_final.pdf As a response to the needs of educational institutions for additional support in developing the practice of available, quality and fair education for all children, with a special focus and care for children from vulnerable social groups, in 2010, MoESTD established the Inclusive Education Support Network. At the web site of the Network, there is a page where relevant documents and current professional literature is collected and regularly updated, which is an open and available resource for learning and improving the competencies of professionals and for strengthening the parents in the domain of inclusive education (link <http://www.mrezainkluzija.org/resursi>). Also, on the web site of the UNICEF, there is an available set of professional manuals on inclusive education, based on the principle of the respect of human rights, in Serbia available at the link <http://www.unicef.rs/publikacije-2017/>, and in English at the link <http://www.inclusive-education.org/basic-page/inclusive-education-booklets-and-webinars>. On the same link <http://www.unicef.rs/publikacije-2017/> there are manuals created within the project “Prevention of dropout of pupils of the education system in the Republic of Serbia”: School of social care and Manual for prevention of dropout of pupils. At the web site of the Team for Social Inclusion, at the link <http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/sr/category/dokumentacrl/?oblast=obrazovanje&tip=> to all potential users there is a rich collection of research, legislation, manuals, guides in the field of IE.

Operational objective 2:

Measure 1: A training is prepared to teaching assistants “Development and learning of early age children” for teaching assistants working in preschool institutions, and the plan is to include educators who have graduated in Romani language from the Higher Vocational School “Mihajlo Palov” in Vršac. The goal of the training is to strengthen the capacities of teaching assistants in the field of early development and work in preschool institutions in the Republic of Serbia, the training was accredited and is on the list of the programmes of public interest.



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In terms of regulating the teaching assistance and overcoming the mentioned issues, the following has been undertaken: held initial meeting on regulating the issue of teaching assistance in the education system. The existing rules, conducted analyses and reports on the TA practice contain sufficient data which are a sound basis for the creation of rulebooks on teaching assistance. In that respect, of special importance is the comprehensive **analysis of “International policies and practice in teaching assistance in the region and the world”**, which is a product of the joint activity of the Group for Social Inclusion and UNICEF Office in Serbia, as a contribution to the contextual frame for improving the educational policies and practice in the field of teaching assistance in Serbia and preparation for amendments to the regulation and adoption of bylaws. The Law on the Fundamentals of the Education System was adopted (“Official Gazette of RS”, no 88/2017, 27/18 (I) – other law, and 27/18 (II) – other law) which makes a legal foundation for the adoption of the bylaws which will improve the functioning of the work of teaching assistants by defining the criteria for their recruitment, job description and responsibilities, as well as the professional development and improvement of teaching assistants. Article 136 of the LoFES defines that a preschool institution and school can have other associates, teaching and andragogy assistants and assistant teachers, in line with the special law, and their roles and tasks are defined in the institution. MoESTD started the work on establishing a Working Group to gather all the key stakeholders in the field of teaching assistance. The working group will additionally map the current situation and needs in the field of teaching assistance for Roma children and create a bylaw to define the type and level of education and the training programme, work quality standards, rationalisation of the network of teaching assistants and recruitment of new 50 assistants in the school year 2017/18 and 2018/19.

Expanding the network of teaching assistants was planned through the IPA II programme – sectoral budgetary support. The general objective of the Sectoral budgetary support is the support to the RS Government in the implementation of the reforms in the sector of education through the promotion of the quality, equality and relevance of the education system, including the specific issues related to the educational needs of minorities and Roma community, with the aim to have a better response to the needs of the labour market and for a gradual harmonisation with the EU standards. Realisation of objective 3 *Improved conditions for Roma children and students (boys and girls) to participate in the pre-university education (including dropout)* will improve the functionality of the teaching assistants network, then it will improve the development of quality standards for their work; strengthening their capacities for the implementation of quality standards and establishing the quality assurance system for their work in order to have a better response to the needs of schools and to improve the delivery quality. In the upcoming period the network of teaching assistants will be expanded and new 50 assistants will be recruited in the school year 2017/18 and 2018/19. Based on several criteria (number of pupils, vicinity of the substandard settlements, results on the final exam, number of pupils leaving education) the first school selection was done and the committee was made to propose 50 schools in which



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the teaching assistants will be recruited. Apart from the representatives of the ministry, the committee will be composed of the representatives of the National Council of Roma National Minority and the Association of Teaching Assistants.

Apart from that, due to the importance of preschool education, work has been done on the creation and accreditation of a special programme for teaching assistant for the work in preschool institutions. MoESTD signed the Memorandum of Cooperation with the international organisation Save the Children for North-West Balkans (SCNWB) and started the activities on the realisation of the "Available and Quality Education for Roma Boys and Girls" (2017-2018) project. Training "Development and Learning of Children of the Early Age" was accredited within this project for the teaching assistants working in preschool institutions, and also educators graduated in Romani language from the Higher Vocational School "Mihajlo Palov" in Vršac. The purpose of this training is to strengthen the capacities of teaching assistants in the field of early development in preschool institutions in the Republic of Serbia. Training is accredited and is on the list of programmes of public interest. The Manual is planned for the participants with the supplements for each topic to be discussed in the training.

Results of the five-days training for teaching assistants:

- understand your role and responsibility towards the children, PSI, local community and families from vulnerable groups
- master the knowledge on early development, communication skills and partnership in the function of preparation, creation, and implementation of the support for children and parents during the early development, education and during enrolment in school
- master the knowledge necessary to taking the active role in the promotion of the conditions for exercising the rights, development and learning of children, through the cooperation with the employees in PSI and competent institutions in the local community
- be empowered to work on awareness raising in the Roma community about the importance of early development and education.

Law on the Fundamental of the Education System (*"Official Gazette of RS", no 88/2017, 27/18 (I) – other law and 27/18 (II) –other law*), Article 76, defines that a child and pupil and adult who, due to social difficulties, developmental difficulty, disability, learning difficulty, **risk from early dropout of school and other reasons**, requires additional support in education, the institution shall provide the elimination of physical and communication obstacles, adjust the manner in which the school curriculum is realised, adopt and realise individual educational plan. This article further defines the issue of creation, adoption and realisation, manner of monitoring and evaluation of the individual education plan (IEP) as a type of additional support in education. This article defines the objective of the creation and implementation of the IEP, types of the IEP, and the role of the Inter-sectoral committee for the assessment of the needs for additional education, healthcare and social



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support for a child, and teaching associates and teams in the institution participating in the creation of the IEP. The article defines that in the first year of work in line with the IEP, the IEP is assessed every three months, and in the each next year twice a school year, that its implementation is realised by the Ministry, and that a closer instruction for the realisation of the IEP, its application and evaluation shall be given by the minister.

Centre for social policy, with the support of the MoESTD, started the implementation of **“Mechanism for prevention of Roma pupil dropout of the education system”** project which aim is to reduce the pupils’ dropout of the education system and early absenteeism from school, especially of Roma girls and boys and returnees based on the readmission from the EU Member States. Project has reviewed the current response of the institutions on the local level in relation with the reduction of the pupils’ dropout of the education system, and development of the model of advanced system for early identification and reaction of the institutions on the local level, with the aim to prevent dropout of the education system. The project’s focus will be on the Roma pupils and returnees based on the readmission from the EU Member States. The dropout prevention was recognised as one of the priority fields in ensuring quality education for all. The project was realised in three local self-governments: Pirot, Prokuplje, and Vladičin Han. Some of the key activities on the project are: conducting a research on functioning of the existing mechanism in local communities for dropout prevention; designing and piloting the advanced early identification and reaction system on the local level with the aim to prevent dropout of the education system; design the protocol on the local level for the prevention of the dropout of the education system which should serve to schools, centres of social work, inter-sectoral committees, healthcare centres, magistrates, local self-governments and other relevant mechanism and partners on the local level (Roma coordinators, teaching assistants, healthcare mediators); selection of 10 examples of good practice from the local self-governments in Serbia dealing with the reduction of the pupils’ dropout of the education system; promotion of the model of advanced early identification and reaction system on the local level for the dropout prevention.

Law on the Fundamentals of the Education System (*“Official Gazette of RS” no 88/2017, 27/18 (I) – other law and 27/18 (II) –other law*), Article 22, paragraphs 4 and 5 regulate the responsibility for the enrolment and regular attendance of teaching. It is defined that the school is obliged to inform the parent, or other legal representative and the local self-government unit about the child not enrolled in the first grade, not later 15 days before the beginning of the school year. Also, **the school is obliged to inform the parent, or other legal representative of the pupil about the pupil who is not regular in the programme or stopped attending the programme, not later than two days after the pupil stopped attending the programme.** The same law, Article 7, paragraph 2, indent 2 defining the general principles of education, defines the obligations of the educational institution to provide support in the transition of a child or a pupils into the next level of education and to achieve the continuity in education. Article 76, paragraph 5 defines that if a parent or a legal



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representative, unjustifiably refuses to participate in the creation or giving consent for the IEP, the institution shall be obliged to inform the competent institution of the social protection about that **with the aim to protect the best interest of the child or pupil.**

Measure 2: Article 176 of the LoFES defines the term of the personal educational number (PEN) following its holder through all the levels of formal education and represents a key to the connection of all the data about the child, pupil or adult in the IEIS. PEN represents an individual and unrepeatable code consisted of 16 characters allocated to a child, pupil and adult in the automatic procedure using the IEIS, at the request of an institution, at the first enrolment in the institution. Article defines the purpose for which the personal data are collected and the authorised person of the institution having the obligation to personally provide the PEN to the child and pupil through the parent or other legal representative, and an adult in a closed envelope, together with the data for the personal access to the registry about the educational and learning, learning and educational, or educational work and the MoESTD supported the **“Mechanisms for prevention of Roma pupils’ dropout of the national education system” project** (December 2016 – June 2018) realised by the Centre for Social Policy (CSP). The aim of the project is to reduce the dropout rate and absenteeism, especially of Roma girls and boys, and returnees based on readmission from the EU Member States.

The results are:

- Realised research on functioning of the existing mechanisms in the local communities for the dropout prevention.

success and conduct of the pupil and adult, to keep a record on it, and that the data on the PEN and temporary PEN are permanently stored. Article defines that the Ministry is the manager in charge of data on children, pupils who were enrolled in the education system, their monitoring thorough the education system, creation of statistical data important for the adoption of relevant decisions and monitoring the effects of the systemic measures.

- Created a model of advanced system for early identification and response on the local level with the aim of the dropout prevention.

- Designed model of the protocol on the local level for the dropout prevention serving to schools, centres for social work, inter-sectoral committees, healthcare centres, magistrates, local self-governments, and other relevant mechanism and partners on the local level (Roma coordinators, teaching assistants, healthcare mediators).

- Presented examples of good practice from the local self-governments dealing with the dropout reduction.



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In the Catalogue of the continuous professional development programme for teachers, educators and professional associates for the school year 2016/2017 and 2017/2018, there is a list of priority fields for professional development of importance for education.

Operational objective 3:

Measure 1: **Focus groups with parents** were realised in Odžaci, Belgrade and Gadžin Han. The response of the parents was very strong (15 in average). In all three groups parents actively participated and presented their own opinions and understanding of discrimination. When they were expected to present their opinion about what they believed discrimination was, they would always speak about the differences and segregation from the groups due to some personal characteristics of a person. However, when they were supposed to present concrete examples of discrimination from their own experience or examples which they have heard of, they would mostly speak about the examples of various types of peer violence, most often verbal and social. The parents mostly expressed their trust in teachers and school principals, expressing a good cooperation with the teaching staff, and as the reason for discrimination they often mentioned bad upbringing at home of children who are violent. Most of the parents said that children with developmental difficulties should attend special schools because “it’s better for them”. **Focus groups with teachers** were held in Novi Sad, Belgrade and Niš. There were, in average, 15 teachers in a group. As it was the case with the parents, there was also a great cooperation with the teachers as well, who actively participated in the discussion. As it was the case with the parents, some teachers knew how to define the term of discrimination, however, most of them do not make difference between discrimination and violence. The opinions were various – from extremely sensible and empowered teachers who were ready and who know how to work with children from marginalised groups, to teachers having no understanding or knowledge about the inclusive education. Both were equally present in each focus group, and we make a conclusion that the environment they come from does not provide advantages or disadvantages when it comes to the training of teachers. Some teachers demonstrated a strong resistance toward inclusive education of children with developmental disabilities, expressing their opinion through a medical approach towards the disability. Some teachers demonstrated a full misunderstanding of the inclusive education, while one secondary school teacher said that she gives D to all pupils working in line with the IEP since the IEP is designed so that the children cannot “realise” it. In all the groups the reasons for discriminatory and violent behaviour of pupils were recognised as home bad upbringing of children and behaviour of parents. The results of the focus groups will be used in the creation of the manual for the implementation of the new Rulebook on conduct of institutions in cases of suspected or identified discriminatory behaviour.

It is important to underline that the official documents which refer to the education, i.e. standards and curriculum (especially to the tasks and teaching units) for certain school subject which are subject of this report (Nature and Society, Musical Education in the First Cycle; Serbian Language and Literature, and Geography in the Second Cycle, and Geography,



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Sociology, and Constitution and Rights of Citizens in the Third Cycle) are directly related to the issue of national minorities or their cultural heritage, and therefore present positive trends or examples. Even though the commitment of the law makers is recognised when it comes to the integration of national minorities as an integral part in all these documents, the analysis shows that this intention is not clear due to undefined and general formulations of the tasks or contents of the curricula (especially when the cultural heritage is referred to as “our” or when it is hidden behind the general objectives and comprehensive verbalisation). National minorities in the primary school curriculum are mostly referred to in relation with music (except from the subject Nature and Society and partially subject Geography), and generally a limited number of minorities is mentioned (the list of those appearing in the subject Musical Education is longer, but only one Hungarian author is mentioned, or someone from the Ex-Yugoslavia). The information about the national minorities in terms of music are not necessarily a lack, but the tendency of presenting national minorities through “folklore” as a primary form of presenting them should be avoided. The education challenge would imply the application of a balanced and thoughtful approach to the identity of the local “homeland” or environment and its expansion to the general social/country level. The full potential of the contents of importance for the issue of the national minorities is neglected. It is not contextualised in the way to support the understanding of cultural diversity and its contribution to the development of tolerance and mutual respect in a multicultural and multi-ethnic society. Teachers are left with the choice to give lectures about certain important contents without concrete instructions that the lectures should bring to the development of intercultural competences of pupils, their familiarization with the members of different ethnic/national groups. Subject of History is recognised as one of the most important for strengthening the awareness about different opinions regarding the past, including the position and perspective of the national minorities. The analysis of the curricula for History indicates that in the course of entire education cycle, from the first grade to the end of the third cycle, subjects of Nature and Society, History, and to some extent Geography, do not deal with the issue of national minorities which live in Serbia today in a proper and satisfactory manner. It can be concluded that in the existing content of the curriculum there is a lack of the full insight into the process of creation of modern multicultural and multi-ethnic Serbian society and country, or it is not sufficiently transparent. Nourishing the national identity and strengthening the awareness of the importance of the cultural heritage as a key component of the identity are basically expressed in bringing the feeling of patriotic awareness and belonging to the Republic of Serbia, while not taking into account special characteristics of various national minorities living in Serbia today.

Recommendations and suggestions for overcoming the identified shortcomings underlined in this report, will be realised in cooperation with the international organisation of ECMI – European Centre for Minority Issues dealing with research on public minority policies and providing counselling services in this field.



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ANALYSIS OF THE STATUS OF ROMA INCLUSION AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

The important means for effective policy implementation at the national and local levels are the filled out questionnaires of local self-government units (LSGU), centralised in the database to monitor measures for inclusion of the Roma. In terms of volume of data, the database is progressing. In 2017, the data were entered by 128 LSGU (out of total 198 registered by census with Kosovo and Metohija), while in 2016 the questionnaires were filled out by 124 local self-governments, and finally 80 in 2015. In order to monitor the implementation of the National Strategy for Roma Inclusion through a set of strategic measures, the local self-governments hire coordinators for Roma issues in the field of education, health, social welfare and housing, reporting on project activities (especially on the work of the Council for Inter-ethnic Relations and other relevant bodies and authorities for the inclusion of Roma) at the local level. Coordinators for Roma issues are available in 68 local self-governments in the Republic of Serbia, accounting for 53% of the total number of local self-governments that filled out the questionnaire. The importance of the support of the Roma Coordinator is reflected in the fact that 29 out of 45 local self-governments that adopted the Local Action Plan for the Inclusion of Roma engaged coordinators. Considering last year's questionnaires, the Action Plan was actually adopted by 53 municipalities. However, 9 of them (Senta, Smederevo, Surdulica, Srbobran, Smederevska Palanka, Gadzin Han, Lebane, Loznica and Nova Crnja) did not fill in the questionnaires this year, while 19 municipalities reported this year for the first time on the adoption of their Action Plans. These are: Ada, Apatin, Bela Palanka, Bela Crkva, Bojnik, Valjevo, Doljevac, Kikinda, Kostolac, Kraljevo, Merošina, Niš-Palilula, Osečina, Požarevac, Prokuplje, Sremska Mitrovica, Subotica and Užice.

Ada	from 01/03/2015 to 01/01/2020
Aleksinac	from 07/03/2012 to 31/12/2017
Apatin	from 25/05/2016 to 25/05/2020
Barajevo	from 16/11/2015 to 31/12/2025
Bela Palanka	from 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2018
Bela Crkva	from 10/10/2015 to 31/12/2020
Bojnik	from 01/03/2017 to 31/12/2025
Boljevac	from 02/01/2017 to 02/01/2018
Valjevo	from 01/01/2005 to 31/12/2018
Gadžin Han	from 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2016
Doljevac	from 01/02/2018 to 01/02/2023
Žitište	from 01/01/2016 to 31/12/2019
Zvezdara	from 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2020
Kikinda	from 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2019
Kostolac	from 21/05/2016 to 21/05/2020
Kovačica	from 01/01/2013 to 31/12/2017
Kovin	from 01/07/2015 to 31/12/2019



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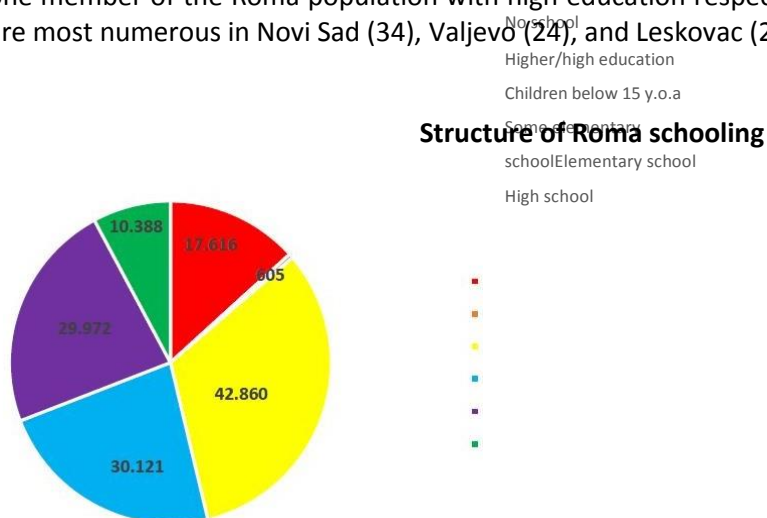
Koceljeva	from 01/01/2013 to 31/12/2015
Kragujevac	from 01/05/2013 to 01/07/2017
Kraljevo	from 20/09/2017 to 31/12/2025
Kruševac	from 12/09/2016 to 31/12/2020
Kuršumlja	from 15/05/2014 to 15/05/2017
Lebane	from 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2016
Leskovac	from 01/01/2016 to 31/12/2019
Loznica	from 01/01/2013 to 31/12/2017
Merosina	from 15/12/2017 to 15/12/2019
Mionica	from 01/07/2015 to 31/12/2019
Nis-Palilula	from 22/05/2017 to 20/04/2021
Nova Crnja	from 01/01/2013 to 31/12/2015
Novi Pazar	from 01/05/2013 to 01/07/2017
Odžaci	from 12/09/2016 to 31/12/2020
Paraćin	from 15/05/2014 to 15/05/2017
Pećinci	from 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2019
Pozarevac	from 01/01/2016 to 31/12/2020
Požega	from 26/12/2012 to 26/12/2016
Prokuplje	from 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2021
Rakovica	from 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2020
Ruma	from 07/05/2015 to 07/05/2020
Senta	from 06/01/2017 to 05/01/2021
Smederevo	from 01/07/2014 to 31/12/2017
Smederevska Palanka	from 27/02/2015 to 10/01/2018
Sombor	from 01/01/2016 to 31/12/2019
Sremski Karlovci	from 01/01/2015 to 01/01/2020
Stara Pazova	from 15/11/2013 to 31/12/2015
Subotica	from 01/09/2017 to 31/12/2021
Uzice	from 08/02/2018 to 31/12/2020
Čukarica	from 24/03/2015 to 24/03/2019
Šid	from 28/10/2015 to 28/10/2019

A total number of 121,194 members of the Roma population are living in these 128 municipalities that filled out the questionnaires (59,632 Roma men and 61,562 Roma women), whereby the Roma participate in the total population of the Republic of Serbia with almost 2%. The largest number of Roma lives in Leskovac (7,700), Zemun (5,600) and Novi Sad (3,576). Percentagewise, most Roma were registered in Kostolac (19.5%), Bojnik (14.8%), Surdulica (13%), and Bela Palanka (11.6%).



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There is room for improvement in the area of Roma schooling structure. Except for children under the age of 15, the majority of the Roma population consists of Roma with elementary education, whose participation in the overall Roma population is almost equal to the number of those who have not finished elementary school. The smallest number of them have high education (605), and in the 16 registered municipalities there isn't even a single one, while in the 33 municipalities there is only one member of the Roma population with high education respectively. Those having high education are most numerous in Novi Sad (34), Valjevo (24), and Leskovac (23).



Special funds for the improvement of the position of Roma are allocated by 37 municipalities in the total amount of RSD 67,952,222. Standing out among them are municipalities of Odžaci (RSD 14.5 million), Bela Palanka (RSD 10 million), and Apatin (RSD 4.9 million).

The Council for Inter-ethnic Relations has been formed in 40 municipalities, of which in the 26 municipalities there is at least one member coming from the Roma population. The Council/Commission for Gender Equality functions in 104 municipalities, of which in 9 municipalities the members come from the Roma population. The Health Council exists in 106 municipalities, while the Roma are present only in 13 municipalities.

The best results in the process of inclusion of Roma, according to all aforementioned indicators, were achieved by 4 municipalities: Subotica (first level of development), Stara Pazova (first level of development), Leskovac (third level of development) and Bojnik (fourth level of development) adopted the Local Action Plan, allocated special funds for the inclusion of Roma, engaged the Roma Coordinator, formed all three Councils (for inter-ethnic relations, gender equality and health) and provided health mediators.

Health

The role of women - health mediators is to keep records of the health status of people living in informal settlements, to work with them to raise awareness about the necessity of vaccination of



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children, as well as the importance of proper nutrition and hygiene habits. Health mediators should provide better insights for the medical institutions into the state of these settlements, and to warn their inhabitants about the importance of timely reporting to a doctor. The health mediator is not a healthcare worker (doctor or nurse), but they link up the healthcare system and the citizens of informal settlements. The Ministry of Health gave priority to the selection of health mediators among the Roma women who are mothers living in a Roma settlement. The total number of health mediators is 56 and they are deployed in 48 municipalities, and the largest number of mediators per municipality is in Novi Sad (3).

The Health Council exists in 106 municipalities, 13 of which have Roma members, while in 7 of them health mediators are also available. All three conditions for the inclusion of Roma in the field of health were fulfilled by Bela Palanka, Voždovac, Zaječar, Merošina, Paraćin, Pirot and Čačak.

Education

Expert assistance and additional support for students, teachers, educators and professional associates in order to improve their work with children and students in Serbia is provided by 136 pedagogical assistants. Assistants are available in 58 municipalities (45.3% of municipalities that filled out the questionnaire). The largest number of pedagogical assistants exist in Valjevo, Zemun and Leskovac (6); Kragujevac, Subotica, Čukarica and Novi Sad (5), while others have only 4 respectively or less than that.

For textbooks, in 2017/2018, funds were allocated by 22 municipalities in the total amount of RSD 44,134,034. Standing out according to the allocated amount are Novi Sad (RSD 17,574,000), Kruševac (RSD 7,000,000) and Ruma (RSD 5,500,000). However, for the textbooks of the Roma population, 9 municipalities allocated funds in the total amount of RSD 3,428,098, among which Ruma (RSD 2,400,000) and Subotica (RSD 300,000) are standing out.

In 2017/2018, for school luncheon, 47 municipalities allocated funds in the total amount of RSD 244,948,101. Standing out according to the allocated amount are Novi Sad (RSD 65,649,191), Kovin (RSD 18,200,000) and Kragujevac (RSD 17,000,000). However, only 7 municipalities have allocated funds in the total amount of RSD 14,806,127 for the benefit of the Roma population, out of which Sečanj (RSD 3,500,000) and Ruma (RSD 3,400,000) are standing out.

For school transport, in 2017/2018, 85 municipalities allocated funds in the total amount of RSD 1,103,305,902. Standing out according to the allocated amount are Kruševac (RSD 46,316,000) and Kraljevo (RSD 46,092,000). However, only 6 municipalities have allocated funds for the school transportation of the Roma population in the total amount of RSD 41,853,762, out of which Kragujevac (RSD 37,796,907) is standing out.

On the other hand, for transportation of high school students, in 2017/2018, 63 municipalities allocated funds in the total amount of RSD 1,582,021,289. Standing out according to the allocated amount are Kosjerić (RSD 1 billion) and Subotica (RSD 52,785.00). However, for transportation of



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high school students of the Roma population, only 5 municipalities have allocated funds in the total amount of RSD 7,680,000, out of which Ruma (RSD 4,500,000) is standing out.

6 municipalities in the Republic of Serbia approved a total of 272 secondary school scholarships to members of the Roma population in 2017/2018. The largest number of scholarships was given to high school students in Voždovac (165), in Ruma (46) and in Valjevo (45). In 10 municipalities, Roma students received a total of 225 student scholarships for the current school year, among which Voždovac (200 scholarships) is standing out.