Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015
FIVE YEARS IN THE DECADE

18th International Steering Committee Meeting
June 24-25, 2010 Bratislava, Slovak Republic
Objectives:

- Getting an objective picture how the Decade governments and NGO partners see the past five years in the Decade
  - value added of the Decade, results, shortcomings and way of further improvement
- Getting an opinion on the Decade events, role of presidencies and international partners
- Decade Trust Fund – contribution, administration
- Role of the Decade Secretariat – how the secretariat should improve its work and assistance
Five years in the Decade
View of the Governments

Value added of the Decade – common position

- The Decade is the moving engine for creating systematic Roma inclusion policies and implementation of programs
- Decade is import tool to lobby for Roma integration policies
- Institutional setup for Roma integration has been significantly improved in the Decade countries
- Roma participation is a key value and makes a difference
- As to government programs: educations was the primary focus followed by housing
Five years in the Decade View of the Governments

Concerns raised

- IOs to be more cooperative in providing technical assistance
- Decade has not reached yet local level
- Decade failed in monitoring and evaluation
Five years in the Decade
View of the Governments

Suggestions for improvement

● Donors should support governments and NGOs in accordance with the NAPs only
● Monitoring, impact analysis, analysis on cost effectiveness should be compulsory
● Enhanced cooperation is crucially important with the European Commission
● Fund should be established similar to REF for
  ➢ supporting infrastructure related projects
  ➢ addressing unexpected emergency cases
Value added of the Decade – common position

- Decade is the most important initiative for Roma
- Decade is an important tool to push governments for appropriate policies
- Roma became visible particularly in government structures
Five years in the Decade
View of civil society partners

Concerns raised

- Decade is missing a vision
- Lack of data
- Lack of funding
- Lack of appropriate consultation between IOs and civil society actors
- Ad hoc actions of governments instead of systematic measures
- Insignificant change on community level
- Decade increased the prejudices toward Roma
Five years in the Decade
View of civil society partners

Suggestions for improvement

- More attention should be paid on communication – development of a communication strategy
- Focus should be on monitoring and evaluation
- More lobby on EU level for acceptance and integration of the Decade
- Development of local actions plans
- Measures against Decade partners who regularly ignore Decade events
Decade process and events

Common position

- Presidency gives a good opportunity to national governments to focus on Roma integration
- Hungary considered as the best presidency (priorities, international initiatives, workshops, organization)
- Slovakia is the least successful (priorities, national focus, organization)
- Events are important platforms for exchanging experiences and information
- Good opportunity for networking
Decade process and events

Concerns raised

- Lack of involvement of civil society in the work of the presidencies
- Missing opportunity for Decade partners to comment draft presidency plans
- Missing follow up of recommendations of thematic workshops
Decade process and events

Suggestions for improvement

- Presidency plan should represent continuity, build on the work of previous presidencies
- Presidency should be more active on political level, advocacy role should be stronger on international stage
- Events should be more focused, interactive and provide practical knowledge accompanied by field visits
- International experts should be involved and invited
- Line ministry officials to be invited including Ministry of Finance
Decade Trust Fund

- Important tool to support Decade process
- Contribution needs to be planned due in advance to allocate funding from the national budget
- Several Decade partners expressed interest in applying for funding in the next 6 months
- DTF implementation procedure is very complicated and long
- Partners support the idea of taking over the administration of DTF by the Decade Secretariat while the Trust Fund would be still under the WB management system
Decade Secretariat

- Compliments – overall satisfaction with the professional approach of the Decade Secretariat
- Considered as central contact point where information is easily accessible
Decade Secretariat

Suggestions for improvement

- Sharing best practices, program and project descriptions
- Collect and share information on funding opportunities particularly EU funding
- Break the language barrier - translation of relevant documents into national languages
- Yearly monitoring visits on the implementation of NAP
- Initiating meeting on sub-regional level or on the level of National Coordinators
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

www.romadecade.org

Tunde Buzetzky
Decade of Roma Inclusion Secretariat Foundation
tbuzetzky@decadesecretariat.org