

## ROMA WOMEN – LABOUR MEDIATORS

Under a programme of the National Employment Action Plan 2008, the Centre for Human Resources Development and Regional Initiatives trained 55 unemployed people of Roma origin to be labour mediators. Forty-five of them were women.

The labour mediators have been employed at 44 Labour Office Directorates in regions with compact Roma population all over the country.

The main tasks of the Roma labour mediators include:

- individual work with unemployed people from Roma origin;
- involving people in motivational training following their registration;
- building skills and habits for job search;
- providing practical guidelines for job search;
- establishing active contacts between the mediator and the unemployed people;
- organisation and implementation of information campaigns “Come and Register at the Labour Office”;
- organisation of informal seminars and informal individual and group meetings.

The Roma women labor mediators contributed to the labour market integration of unemployed people. This is evident from the summary results for the period August 2008 – February 2009.

There are 3422 inactive people registered at the labour offices, 477 people started jobs, 124 meetings with employers and 103 information campaigns “Come and Register” were organised, and 2364 individual and 74 group meetings were conducted. In addition, 121 people have been involved in literacy and vocational qualification trainings.



Roma women labour mediators organised specialised labour exchange offices for unemployed people from Roma origin, thus providing assistance to 1092 people in finding a job. Two labour exchange offices of that kind will be carried out in 2009.



It is expected that additionally 155 people will be trained and 200 unemployed Roma people will be hired as labour mediators.

## RAISING AWARENESS OF THE ROLE OF ROMA WOMEN IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

On May 18th, 2008 the Centre for Human Resources Development and Regional Initiatives organised a national round table “The Roma woman - present and future”. The event aimed at popularizing policies, programmes and measures in the field of Roma people social inclusion and gender equality. It focused especially on the role of the Roma woman in upbringing the young generation and participating in the labour market. Representatives of the public administration, social partners, municipalities, non-governmental organisations and academic society took an active part in the discussion.

The round table was part of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy initiatives in the context of the initiative “Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005 - 2015”, aiming at raising awareness of the role, place and functions of Roma women in contemporary society.

