

Center for Regional Development – Roma, Kyustendil, Bulgaria

Desegregation process in Kyustendil, Bulgaria

27–28 May 2011, Prague
Czech Republic

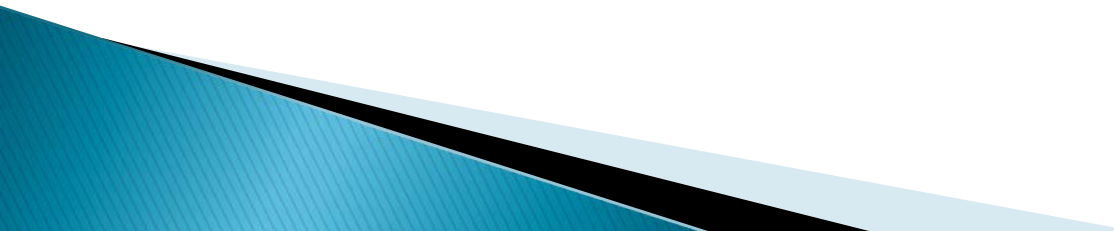
The town of Kyustendil

Municipality Kustendil



The town of Kyustendil is situated in South-Western part of Bulgaria and together with the other 71 populated areas, covers an area of 964.3 square kilometers. It is located in a zone suitable for development of cross-border collaboration close to the borders of Macedonia (22 km) and Serbia (30 km). Kyustendil also lies on 96 km from Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria.

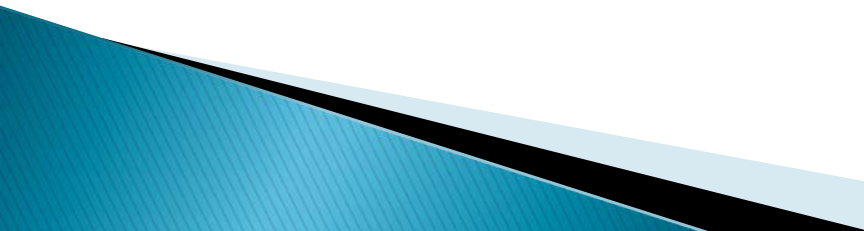
Population of Kyustendil Municipality

- ▶ The Municipality of Kyustendil is an ethnically-homogenous region;
 - ▶ According the data of the National Statistic Institute from the last census of the population (1 February 2011), the Municipality has a population of 44 416 people.
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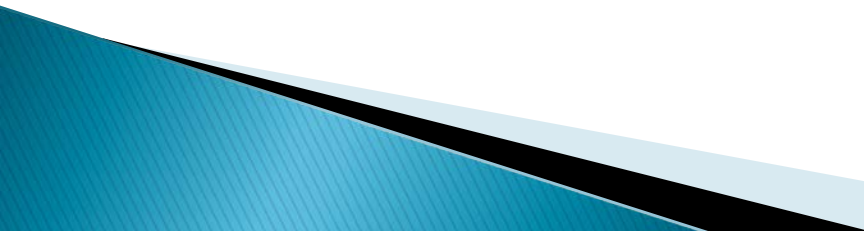
“Iztok” District

- ▶ The so called “Roma” District is situated in the North–East part of Kyustendil, which gives its official name “Iztok” District (“Iztok” means “East”);
- ▶ According the National Statistic Institute data by the last census of the population (1 February 2011) on the territory of the district live 5 171 people by Roma origin (2 575 Roma men and 2 596 Roma women);
- ▶ 1 640 people – less than 18 years of age;
- ▶ 3358 people – between 18 and 64 years of age;
- ▶ 169 people – more than 64 years of age;

Center for Regional Development – Roma, Kyustendil

- ▶ The Center for Regional Development – Roma was created in July 2008 with the purpose to support the development of the young Roma people from “Iztok” District;
 - ▶ The **mission** of the Center for Regional Development „Roma“ is to meet the needs of the people in the Roma quarter about the education, development and popularization of the customs and traditions of Bulgarians and Roma people; increasing the knowledge of the population and affiliation to the values and the achievements of the science, art and culture; upbringing and approval of the national self-consciousness and to contribute of the social integration of Roma people in Bulgaria, which will increase their civil responsibility and activation;
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Projects:

- ▶ **Project “Desegregation in Kyustendil”** (Project Code: BU 132), financed by Roma Education Fund, Budapest. Implementation period: 1 July 2009 – 30 June 2010;
 - ▶ **Project “Institutional Support 2010/2011”** (Project Code: B0069), financed by Open Society Institute, Budapest. Implementation period: 3 August 2010 – 3 August 2011;
 - ▶ **Project “Adults Education”** (Project Code: BU 150), financed by Roma Education Fund, Budapest. Implementation period: 1 November 2010 – 31 October 2011;
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Project “Desegregation in Kyustendil”

The **general goal** of the project is the successful integration of Roma children in the Bulgarian educational system through desegregation method, to take out the Roma children from the segregated schools in the Roma quarter “Iztok”, distributes them equally in the other schools in the city of Kyustendil and to prevent the early drop-outs of the Roma children from the educational system.

Partners; Kyustendil Municipality

9 schools

- ❖ There are 17 Schools in Kyustendil (7 Primary Schools and 10 Secondary Schools). In the project were involved 9 of them (5 Primary Schools and 4 Secondary Schools);

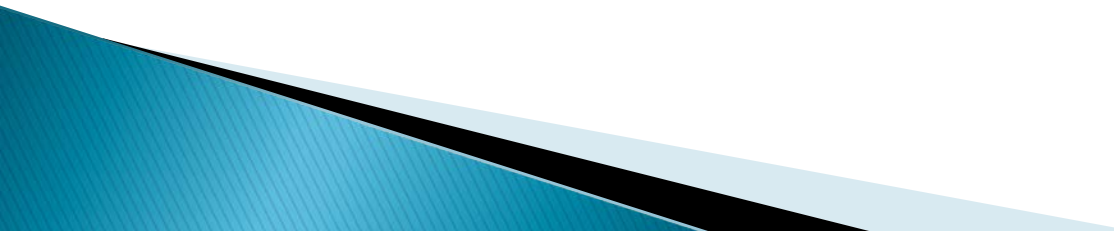
Number of the pupils, involved in the project;

School	1 grade	2 grade	3 grade	4 grade	5 grade	6 grade	7 grade	8 grade	10 grade	11 grade	Total number of enrolled pupils per school
№ 2	14	8	6	6	6	12	13	8	-	-	73
№3	11	15	15	8	7	11	5	6	-	-	84
№5	2	2	3	-	4	7	6	5	-	-	29
№ 6	8	8	9	9	7	7	5	7	-	-	60
№ 7	8	-	5	1	2	-	2	1	-	-	19
Sport School "Vasil Levski"	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	4	6	18
Other Secondary Schools	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
TOTAL	43	33	38	24	28	39	33	29	4	6	313

Project`s activities:

- ▶ Selection and creation of the project`s team;
- ▶ Working preparatory meetings with the school`s directors and representatives of the local authorities (Kyustendil Municipality and Regional Educational Inspectorate);
- ▶ Information campaign amongst the local Roma community;
- ▶ Preparation of a schedule and itinerary about the everyday transportation of the children (in cooperation with Kyustendil Municipality);
- ▶ Daily transportation of totally 313 children from/to the Roma settlement to/from the city schools for the period from 15 of September 2009 till 15 of June 2010);
- ▶ On 15 of September 2009 (the First School Day) was organized an official ceremony for the pupils;
- ▶ Visit of all school`s directors to take the lists with the names of the children already registered in schools;
- ▶ Every day visit of the teacher assistant to the Roma families, whose children have some educational problems;
- ▶ Consultations for the pupils, who have some educational problems;

Project`s activities:

- ▶ Parents meetings;
 - ▶ Meetings with the directors of the accepting schools in accordance with the organization of the Christmas celebrations;
 - ▶ Daily contact with the children, class teachers and school directors by the Coordinators for work with parents;
 - ▶ Spring Day Concert;
 - ▶ Competition “Miss Roma Spring”, in which participated 11 schoolgirls from the schools involved in the project;
 - ▶ A concert of the occasion of the International Roma Day;
 - ▶ A Concert on the occasion of the national holiday “Gergjovden” on 6 of May 2010 (“Herderlezi”);
 - ▶ Support for the students with the preparation of different kinds of reports and essays;
 - ▶ Individual consultation before the exams;
 - ▶ Home visit to all parents to remind them about the forthcoming exams and their great importance about their children educational level;
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Charity Concert *(December 2009):*



Concert: “We are together – tolerant each to other” (April 2010)





Ученици в „Ние сме заедно - толерантни един към друг“

Над 90 ученици от Второ ОУ „Даскал Димитри“, Трето ОУ „Проф. Марин Дринов“, Пето ОУ „Хр. Ботев“, Шесто ОУ „Св. П. Хилендарски“, Седмо ОУ „Ильо Войвода“ и СУ „В. Левски“ пяха, танцуваха ромски танци и рецитираха стихове заедно в концерт под наслов „Ние сме заедно - толерантни един към друг“.

Проявата бе във връзка с реализирането на проекта „Десегрегация на ромските деца в гр. Кюстендил“, финансиран от REF - Читалище „В. Левски“ - Кюстендил, кв. „Изток“ и Сдружение „Център за регионално развитие -Рома“. Концер-



ледните 10 години над 3000 ромски деца се обучават в масови училища.

„Образованието е осно-

вено образованието, казва за „Н“ председателят на

страните, сред които както членки на Европейският съюз, така и държави, които се намират на различни етапи в своето присъединяване към него. Основните цели на Десетилетието са насочени към ускоряване и подобряване благоденствието на ромите чрез включването им в процеса на вземане на решения и преглед на напредъка по прозрачен и количествено измерим начин.

Десетилетието представлява първи опит за съвместни действия в международен мащаб с цел промяна на живота на ромите в Европа, но е пока-

4 хил. лв. с „Лейдис клуб“

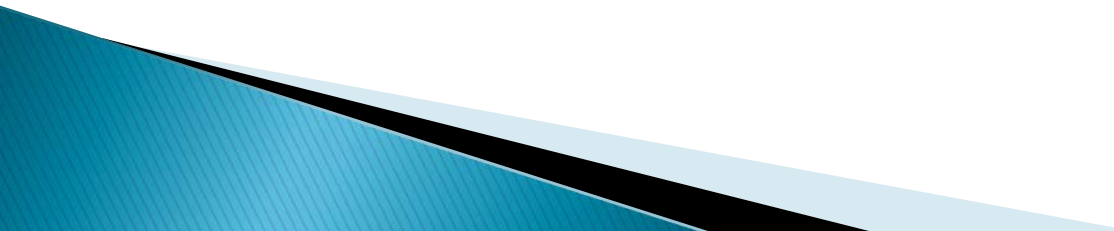
Малко над 4000 лв. събра благотворително на втория си бал дамското сдружение „Лейдис клуб“. Събитието премина при голям интерес и атрактивна програма.

Председателят на сдружението Албена Карапеткова благодари на всички, които подкрепиха каузата. Балът се провежда за втора поредна година, а събитието уважи кметът на Кюстендил Петър Паунов. Стойността на благотворителните покана бе 70 лева. Събраните средства отново ще бъдат за обучение-

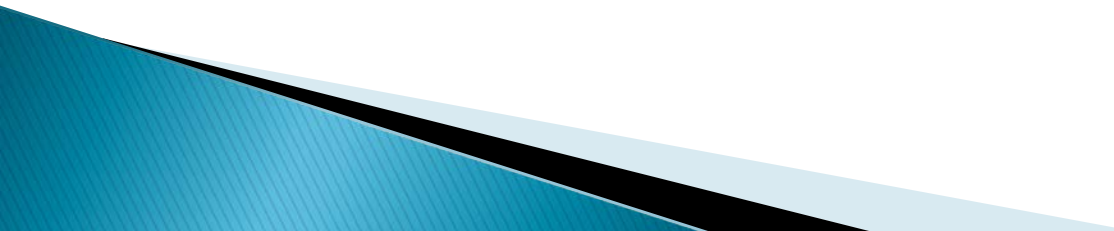
торите доволни бал, тъй в сравнен дна кувещите сред та присъ налогодитки на дние, както „Лейдис „Кюстен 2010“ – М „Благода жението първата дина и с както те ка и ние



Key areas of progress:

- ▶ Personal engagement of the Mayor of Kyustendil;
 - ▶ Excellent partnership, political and financial support by Kyustendil Municipality ;
 - ▶ Covering the expenses about the fuel for transportation and insurance;
 - ▶ Reconstruction of the Community center`s building;
 - ▶ Since 2009/2010 school year the Municipality started the whole day form of education;
 - ▶ Higher number of children (291 children), involved in the project (the expected number were 240 children).
 - ▶ Transportation of 313 children from preschool to 11 grade;
 - ▶ Support of the events, organized by the project`s team through financial resources or rewards;
 - ▶ Good partnership with the school directors, teachers and representatives of the Regional Educational Inspectorate.
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Results:

- ▶ Work with 313 children and their parents;
 - ▶ After the end of 2009/2010 school year and the supplementary examinations in July 2010 only one director reported for 2 students in 5 grade, who drop-out by the educational system;
 - ▶ The project's team has also information for other 4 students, who drop-out from the educational system, because they leave abroad with their parents;
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Project: “Institutional Support 2010/2011”

- ▶ The **main goal** of the project is the successful integration of Roma children in the Bulgarian educational system and in the society through prevention of early drop-outs of the Roma students, improving the motivation of Roma students for studying and good education achievements and stimulation and preparation of Roma pupils for social activities and socialization;

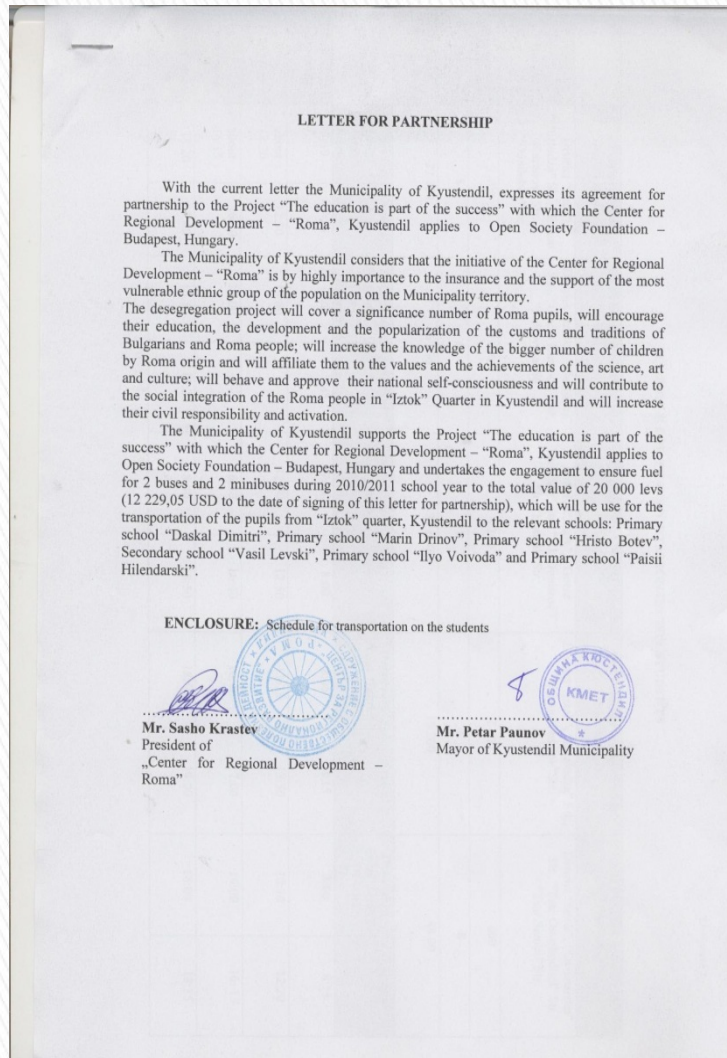
Partnership:

Kyustendil Municipality:

- ▶ Cover the expenses for the fuel for 2 buses and 2 minibuses during the daily transportation of the students in 2010/2011 school year (12 229,05 USD);

Schools:

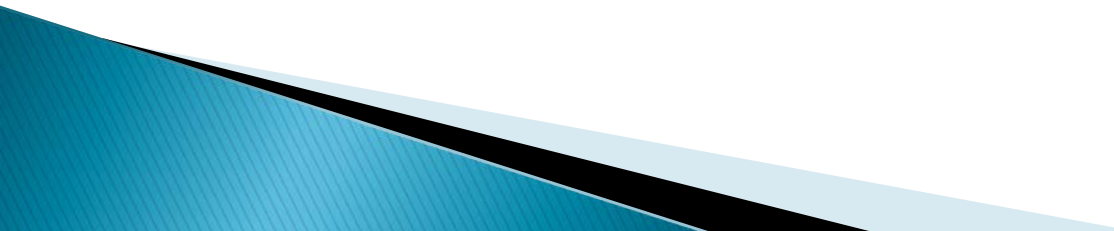
- ▶ Primary school “Daskal Dimitri”;
- ▶ Primary school “Marin Drinov”;
- ▶ Primary school “Hristo Botev”;
- ▶ Secondary school “Vasil Levski”;
- ▶ Primary school “Ilyo Voivoda”;
- ▶ Primary school “Paisii Hilendarski”.



Number of the students:

№	Schools	Pre-school group	I grade	II grade	III grade	IV grade	V grade	VI grade	VII grade	VIII grade	Total:
1	Primary school "Daskal Dimitri"	4	9	15	8	7	7	4	11	9	74
2	Primary school "Marin Drinov"	9	12	11	15	14	12	8	9	5	95
3	Primary school "Hristo Botev"	-	3	3	4	2	8	-	6	7	33
4	Primary school "Paisii Hilendarski"	-	4	8	8	9	9	7	7	5	57
5	Primary school "Ilyo Voivoda"	-	5	7	-	3	1	1	0	2	19
6	Secondary school "Vasil Levski"	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	3	5	13
											291

Activities:

- ▶ Press conference;
 - ▶ Opening of the new School Year 2010/2011;
 - ▶ Meetings with parents;
 - ▶ Club in Interests: “ I am dancing”;
 - ▶ Theater performance;
 - ▶ A Charity Christmas Concert;
 - ▶ A training: “Interactive methods of education in multicultural environment in the secondary schools”
 - ▶ Organization and celebration of holidays: Christmas, Vasilica, International Roma Day – 8 April, Miss "Roma Spring" – march, Herderlezi – 6 May, Slavonic Literature Day – 24 May;
 - ▶ Everyday transportation of the pupils to the accepting schools;
 - ▶ Everyday coordinating activities between the teacher–assistants;
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The First School Day (15 September 2010):



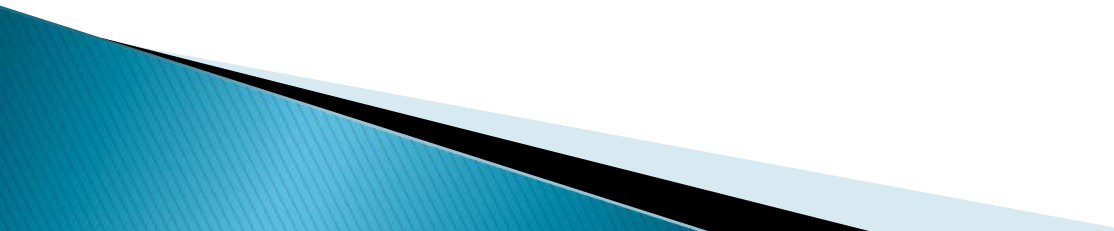
Club of Interests: “I am dancing”



A Charity Christmas Concert



Key areas of progress:

- ▶ Personal support by the Mayor of Kyustendil;
 - ▶ Partnership, political and financial support by Kyustendil Municipality ;
 - ▶ Covering of the expenses about the fuel for transportation and insurance;
 - ▶ Covering the state taxes for the whole day form of education by the Municipality;
 - ▶ Covering the salary for 1 teacher–assistant by the Municipality;
 - ▶ Covering the salary for 1 bus driver by the Municipality
 - ▶ High number of children (291 children), involved in the project;
 - ▶ Transportation of 291 children from pre–school to 8 grade;
 - ▶ Hiring of 3 teacher–assistants;
 - ▶ Good partnerships with the school directors and teachers;
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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