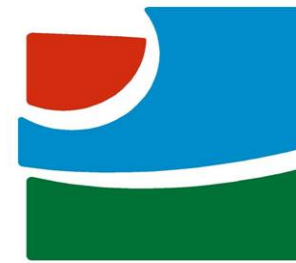




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## *EQUI SASTIPEN: HEALTH EQUITY*

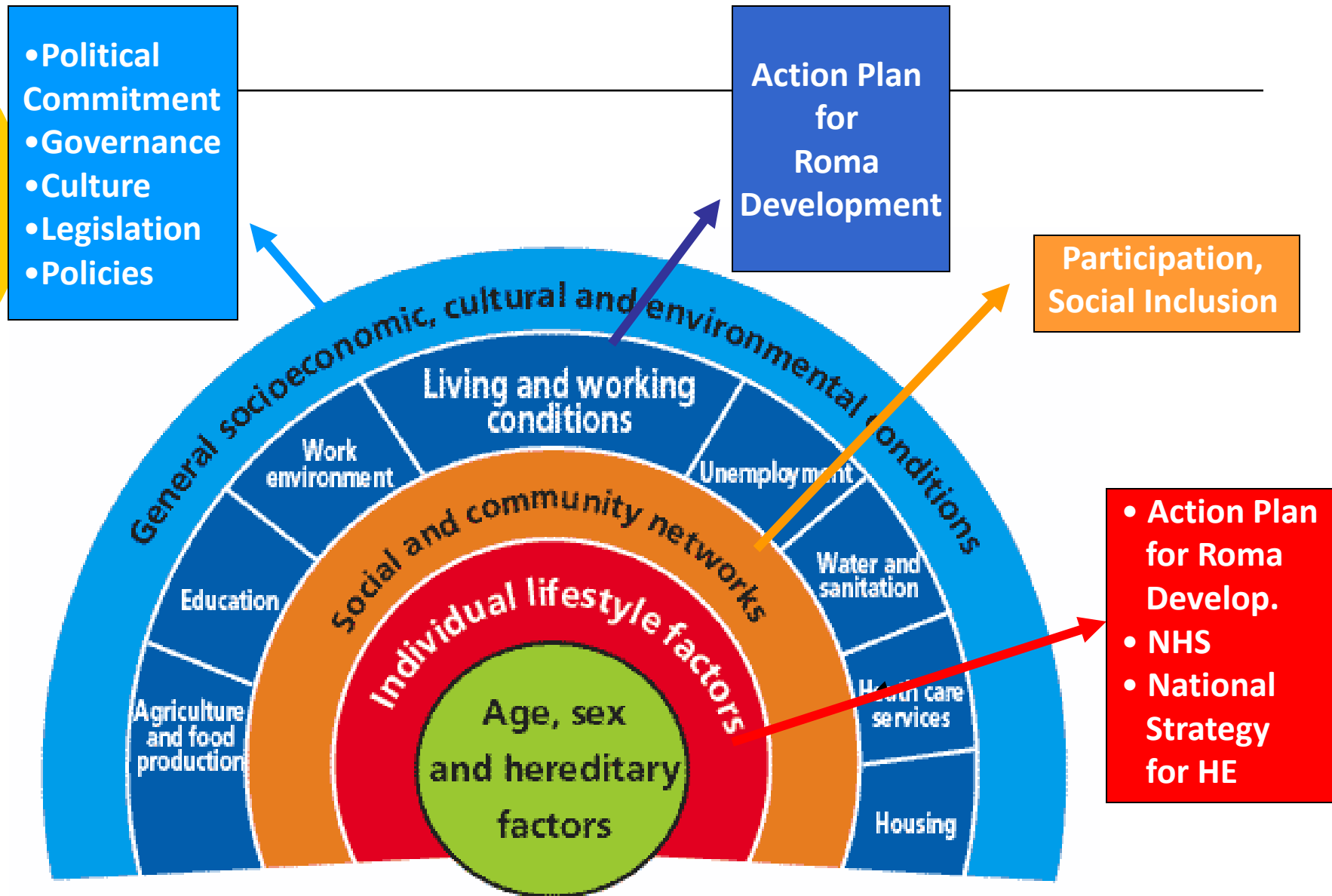
How health services  
can contribute to improve Roma Health  
through a comprehensive approach?

Health Promotion among Navarre Ethnic Minorities programme

**Panel session III: Access to primary health care**  
**International Conference “Towards Better Health of Roma”**  
**24-25 January, 2012, Skopje**

Ricardo Hernandez. Member of the Health Working Group  
State Council for Roma Development  
Pilar Campos. Head Officer of Health Promotion Area  
Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality.

# SDH approach: a comprehensive strategy is needed



# General Recommendations

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- Roma community's participation in all intervention processes.
- Cross-sector work among all the people involved.
- To advance and go further in the research about Roma community's health.
- Training on attention to diversity for the Health staff.
- Promotion of intercultural mediation and peer education.
- Adaptation of teaching materials and launching of specifically designed
- Information and awareness campaigns.
- To advance on health assistance universalisation.
- To influence the prevailing health concept in some sectors of the Roma community.
- Normalization and stabilization of the scheme that works towards Roma population's health

*Source: Salud y Comunidad Gitana (Health and the Roma Community). Madrid: MSC-FSG (2005)*

[http://www.mspsi.gob.es/profesionales/saludPublica/prevPromocion/promocion/desigualdadSalud/docs/Health\\_and\\_the\\_Roma\\_Community.pdf](http://www.mspsi.gob.es/profesionales/saludPublica/prevPromocion/promocion/desigualdadSalud/docs/Health_and_the_Roma_Community.pdf)

# A EUROPEAN EXAMPLE OF GOOD PRACTICES

## ETHNIC MINORITIES PROGRAMME OF NAVARRA

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Health Promotion Section Public Health Institute Navarre's Health Service  
and Gaz Kalo Federation (Roma NGO)

# ROMA MEDIATORS





# STRATEGIES

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## **1.- EMPOWERMENT OF THE ROMA POPULATION**

- Roma Mediators: financing, training, supporting
- Respecting and valuing their culture
- Information / peer education (women)

## **2.- INVOLVEMENT OF THE ROMA POPULATION**

- Encouraging Association Areas. Regional network
- Nominating mediators in their Area
- Designing their own programme (Area)



# STRATEGIES

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## **3.- INTERSECTORIAL COORDINATION**

- Local Commission (each Area)
- Regional Commission (Programme)

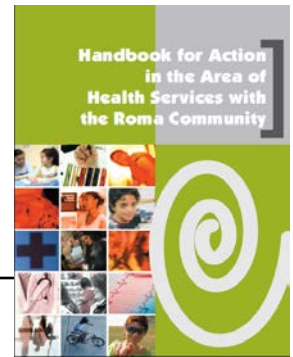
## **4.- REORIENTATION OF PUBLIC SERVICES**

- Informing / Training professionals
- Making / Offering accessible services
- Actively encouraging to use services
- Designing appropriate policies and programmes

## **5.- PROGRESSIVITY. END. FLEXIBILITY.**

# Contribution of the Health Sector: Strengthening health systems (I)

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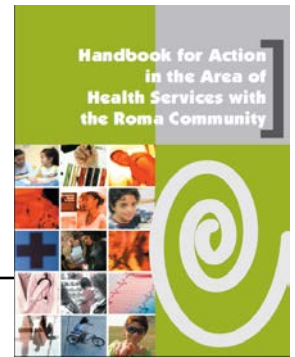


- Roma population has the same health problems and causes of death than the mainstream population so we should address their health in a comprehensive way.
- Refuse prejudices: Do away with the erroneous idea that “all Roma are the same”. The main characteristic of this minority is their diversity and heterogeneity
- Mainstreaming: use of general health-care resource network by the Roma population.
- Care provision for the different cultures which live together in our country should be a transversal element in the planning of actions undertaken through health-care administrative services.
- Long term designing including health promotion as a transversal element



# Contribution of the Health Sector: Strengthening health systems (II)

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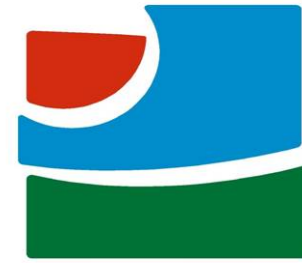


- It is needed to provide quality health services with an equity lens, sensitive to the differences and based on real needs
- It is also needed to provide better access to and use of health services, establishing the basis for a normalized relationship between the Roma community and the health system.
- Optimize and showcase the strengths of the Roma community
- Training and capacity building of health-care personnel for work with ethnic minorities.



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Thank you for listening!