Making the Most of EU Funds for Roma (MtM)

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MtM Background

➢ OSF initiative launched in 2007/2008

➢ MtM is focused on advocacy on the mainstreaming activities that are closely linked to the EU financing cycle, help build governments' capacities in designing complex inclusion programs and apply simplified procedures to facilitate a more decentralized flow of funds to Roma communities.

Position of MtM within the OSF and the larger group of related organizations

Open SocietyFoundation-Budapest

Roma Education Fund

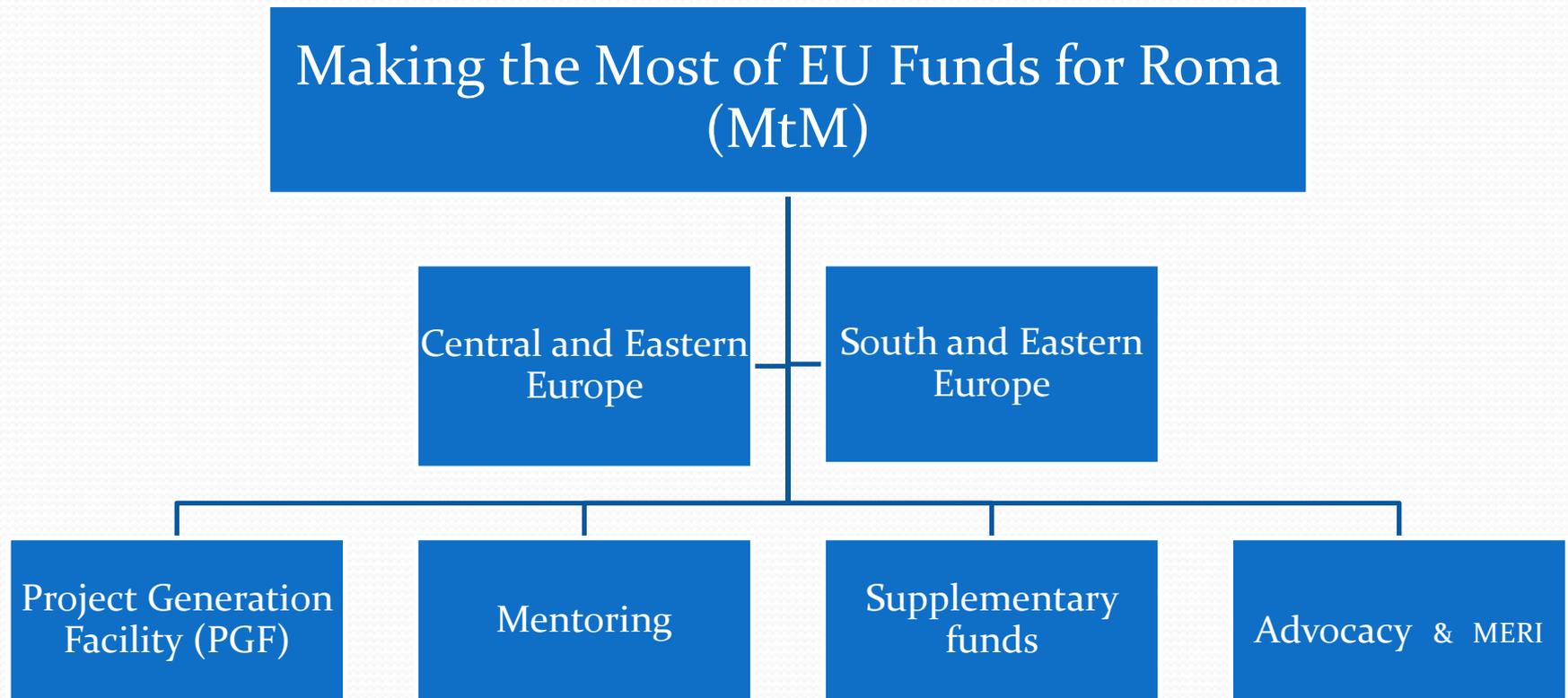European Roma Rights Center

Decade Secretariat

Roma Initiatives

Making the Most

Other related programs

Objectives

➤ Improving the access to EU funds;

➤ Promoting, developing and fostering Roma expertise and involvement in different phases of project development and implementation;

➤ Strengthening Roma inclusion as high priority in local, national and European agendas;

➤ Defining, promoting and scaling up pilot initiatives that made measurable impact on Roma Inclusion;

MtM Components

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➤ **Project Generation Facility-** instrument for technical support in

a) project identification (corresponding to open opportunities); project design and   project writing;

b) " learning by doing" in order to strengthen capacities of local governments and civil society to absorb EU funds;

➤ **Mentoring** – instrument for technical support and guidance in implementation of EU funded projects designed with PGF support

Experience: support is in team establishment; provided procurement procedures; preparation of narrative and financial reports to managing authorities etc

➤ **Supplementary funds** -financial support for the payment of non-eligible costs under given structural funds scheme but essential for the achievement of the Roma inclusion objective of the project;

➤ **Advocacy**- promoting the development experiences of MtM to national and European policy –makers

➤ **MERI**-network of local governments having implemented (or planning to implement) programs for integration of Roma into mainstream societies.

Coverage

➢ MtM targets countries participating in the Decade that have significant Romani populations:

-EU member states -Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Czech Republic and Slovakia

-EU accession countries- Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia

Achievements of PGF in EU member states from 2009 to 2012

- 1.   Quantitative achievements of PGF in EU member states from 2009 to 2012:
- • approximately EUR **24.5 million for 172 projects** generated through PGF support, falling mainly in the Decade areas of education, employment and health

- •   Assisted the generation of over **440 projects**

- •   Provided assistance to local governments and Romani organizations for the generation of structural funds projects in approximately **400 communities**

- •   Provided targeted trainings in EU project design and management for approximately **1,200 persons,** including around **780 Romani and 430 non-Romani** representatives of public administration, educational institutions, and nongovernmental organizations

Achievements of PGF in EU candidate countries as of 2012

- Quantitative achievements of PGF in EU candidate countries as of 2012
- ·   Leveraged around EUR 560,000

- ·   Assisted the generation of 121 projects, with total amount of EUR 7,282,000

- ·   Provided assistance to 89 NGOs and 32 local governments for the generation of IPA-funded projects

- ·   During 2011 and 2012 more than 34.000 people directly benefited PGF supported projects

Opportunities for funding

- **PGFs- Roma young consultants (10-15)-Croatia, Montenegro**
- **PGF consortia/partnership organization**
- **Supplementary funding help**
- **Romania loan support**
- **Unsolicited project support**
- **Small Grants Scheme for Organizational Development on EU Accession Issues**

The initiative provides training opportunities for organizational development to Roma NGOs which aspire to profile their human resource capacities vis--à--vis EU/IPA funding instruments.

The granted organizations have to train at least 2 young managers, total 30.

Targeted countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia. Deadline 28 June.

Opportunities for funding

- **Serbia:** MtM has initially agreed with EU Delegation in Belgrade to support one Roma for **six months internship in the Delegation premises**. The rationale behind is that by the end of this year the Office for EU Integration of Serbia will be accredited for decentralized management of EU funds through its newly established Central Financing and Contracting Unit (CFCU). The idea is to prepare one Roma candidate by the EU Delegation and lobby for his/her employment in the Unit as a long term solution on applying and monitoring the use of EU funds for Roma inclusion.

- **Hungary:** the Department for Social Sciences at Corvinus University accepted to **have tuition free place for one Roma student**. The candidate should apply by the end of July. REF and RIO are negotiating the criteria and other details of the initiative which means soon REF, RIO and Corvinus will announce the opportunity on their web. The selected candidate will attend course on Sociology in English language for BA degree, which lasts six semesters (180 ects). Starting from this school year the initiative will continue for at least 4 years.

MtM National PGFPartners:

- **Macedonia:** Macedonian Center for International Cooperation, Contact: Aleksandar Krzalovski
- **Montenegro:** Center for Democracy and Human Rights, Contact: Marija Vuksanovic
- **Croatia:** Center for Peace, Legal Advice and Psychosocial Assistance, Contact: Milena Babic
- **Serbia:** Romanipen, Know how, Roma center for Democracy
- **Bulgaria:** Foundation Open Society Institute Sofia, Contact: Boyan Zahariev
- **Hungary:** Autonomia Foundation, Contact: Andras Nun
- **Romania:** Civil Society Development Foundation, Contact: Ionut Sibian
- **Slovakia:** Roma Institute, Contract: Klara Orgovanova
- **Czech Republic:** Open society, contact: Czeslaw Walek

Thank you
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