



Co-funded by the Rights,
Equality and Citizenship (REC)
Programme of the European Union



PAL

Enhancing multi-stakeholder cooperation



“Fighting discrimination and anti-Gypsyism in education and employment in EU” (PAL)

Publication edited by FFE and represented officially at February 2016

01/09/2016, First Version

“This publication has been produced with the financial support of the Justice Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme and Pilot Projects 2014 of DG Justice of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of UC Limburg and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Commission.”



Table of Contents

| | |
|--|---|
| Chapter I: Identification of stakeholders | 4 |
| Chapter II: EU funding & Projects | 7 |
| Chapter III: EU Funding. Useful links and ressources | 9 |



Co-funded by the Rights,
Equality and Citizenship (REC)
Programme of the European Union



“Enhancing multi-stakeholder cooperation” (FFE)

Session objective: Give a through overview on the existing European Stakeholders and Funds regarding anti-discrimination in education and employment.

I. Identification of Stakeholders

Key words: Stakeholders

Starting Questions

1. Which are the key stakeholders and key players of **anti-discrimination** in education and employment?

Definitions of terms

1. “Stakeholders” have one or several of the essential characteristics below:
 - One who is affected by or affects a particular problem or issue, and/or
 - Is responsible for problems or issues, and/or
 - Has perspectives or knowledge needed to develop good solutions or strategies, and/or
 - Has the power and resources to block or implement solutions.

Content of the chapter

Stakeholders at work on Roma integration include Member States, EU institutions, regional and local authorities, Roma communities, civil society, international organisations and academia.



Co-funded by the Rights,
Equality and Citizenship (REC)
Programme of the European Union



EU countries and EU institutions

EU countries are committed to ensuring that the Roma have the same access to fundamental rights as any other EU citizen. The role of the EU institutions is to provide a European structure (the EU framework, the European Semester) to support the work of the EU countries.

The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) supports the monitoring of the EU Framework, for example through the "Local engagement for Roma inclusion (LERI)" project.

LERI is a qualitative action research project under FRA's multi-annual Roma Programme. It was developed in response to the European Commission's Communication on an EU Framework for National Roma integration strategies up to 2020. LERI brings together local authorities and residents, in particular Roma, to investigate how they can best be involved in Roma integration actions, and identify which aspects of these actions work, which do not, and why. The aim of the project is to facilitate the engagement of all local stakeholders, including Roma, in joint efforts to enable Roma inclusion. The experience gained and the lessons learned during the process will help improve the design, implementation and monitoring of Roma integration policies and actions at the local level.

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/project/2015/local-engagement-roma-inclusion-leri-multi-annual-roma-programme>

The European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC) is a Roma-led international public interest law organisation working to combat anti-Romani racism and human rights abuse of Roma through strategic litigation, research and policy development, advocacy and human rights education.



Co-funded by the Rights,
Equality and Citizenship (REC)
Programme of the European Union



Since its establishment in 1996, the ERRC has endeavoured to provide Roma with the tools necessary to combat discrimination and achieve equal access to justice, education, housing, health care and public services.

<http://www.errc.org/en-about-us-overview.php>

The European Roma Information Office (ERIO) is an international advocacy organisation that promotes political and public discussion on Roma issues by providing factual and in-depth information on a range of policy issues to European Union institutions, Roma civil organisations, governmental authorities and intergovernmental bodies.

<http://www.erionet.eu>

ERGO Network is a young and dynamic organisation established in 2008 by a small group of NGOs who shared the observation that everyday realities of Roma communities were hardly taken into account in policy development and implementation.

Founded on a shared philosophy of active citizenship, shared responsibility and grassroots empowerment, ERGO Network members aim to convince policy makers that positive change for Roma is possible when antigypsyism is recognized and tackled as root cause of the inequality they face and when the preconditions are in place for Roma to take part in civic life as equal stakeholders.

<http://www.ergonetwork.org/ergo-network/>

The European Roma and Travellers Forum (ERTF) and its members are committed to the achievement of equal rights and equal opportunities for Roma in Europe, including political participation. The ERTF takes an active part in the fight against anti-Tziganism and for the full realisation of human rights.

<https://www.ertf.org/index.php/about-us/about/our-mission-goals>



Co-funded by the Rights,
Equality and Citizenship (REC)
Programme of the European Union



The Roma Initiatives Office works with Roma advocates, organizations, and communities to achieve Roma rights at European, national, and local levels. It works to achieve equal opportunities, combat segregation, and challenge all forms of discrimination faced by Roma. In addition, it facilitates dialogue, exchange, and collaboration across the Open Society Foundations to coordinate efforts, increase knowledge, and enhance the impact of Roma-related grant making and advocacy.

<https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/about/programs/roma-initiatives>

Regional and local levels

Regional and local authorities ensure on-the-ground implementation of national Roma integration strategies. The EU supports many projects stimulating exchanges between regional and local authorities, including the Eurocities Task Force; the MATRIX project; and the Roma-net project. The European Commission also follows work done by the Council of Europe (including the Alliance of Cities on Roma inclusion) and co-finances the ROMACT project and the ROMED programme.

The Local engagement for Roma inclusion (LERI) project from the FRA multi-annual Roma programme brings together local authorities and residents, in particular Roma, to investigate how they can best be involved in Roma integration actions. In 22 localities the engagement of local stakeholders, including Roma, is facilitated to enable Roma inclusion in joint efforts.

International organisations

International organisations like the Council of Europe, the United Nations (OHCHR, UNDP, UNICEF) and the World Bank do essential work, and the European Commission co-operates with them. The European Commission also draws on the research done during the Decade of Roma Inclusion.



Co-funded by the Rights,
Equality and Citizenship (REC)
Programme of the European Union



Academia

Academics are key players too. The European Academic Network on Romani Studies teams up researchers with decision-makers, while also promoting and improving resources on Roma communities.

Questions for thinking:

1. Why do we need to work with stakeholders? What can we ask them for?
2. Are they key players? Do you know other key player?



Co-funded by the Rights,
Equality and Citizenship (REC)
Programme of the European Union



II. Available EU funds and Projects

Key words: EU Funds

Starting Questions

1. Which are the key EU funds to support **anti-discrimination projects** in education and employment?

Definitions of terms:

1. **EU FUNDS.** The European Structural and Investment Funds are funds that work together to support economic, social and territorial cohesion and deliver the objectives of the EU's Europe 2020 strategy to generate smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

Content of the chapter

The European Union finances projects that contribute to fostering Roma integration across Europe. It supports the work of EU countries to improve the lives of all vulnerable people, including the Roma, through the European Structural and Investment Funds, principally the European Social Fund (ESF), the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).

How are the funds allocated?

The distribution of these funds and the management of the programmes are the responsibility of national authorities. Funding is provided on the basis of calls for proposals/tenders and never in response to spontaneous requests. The funding comes in two forms: shared management (managed jointly by the EU and Member States) and direct management (managed directly by the European Commission).

In order to reinforce European financial support for Roma inclusion, the new multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 makes it easier for EU countries to use EU funds for Roma integration.

Funding opportunities directly managed by the European Commission can be found under the following programmes:

The Rights, Equality and Citizenship Funding Programme finances projects aimed at promoting equality and the rights of persons.



Co-funded by the Rights,
Equality and Citizenship (REC)
Programme of the European Union



The Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) programme is an EU-level financing instrument that promotes quality and sustainable employment, guarantees adequate and decent social protection, combats poverty and social exclusion, and fights to improve working conditions.

The Erasmus+ also supports projects, which develop lifelong learning measures for Roma integration through education and other social approaches.

The Public Health Programme regularly finances initiatives to fight against inequalities in access to health.

The Culture Programme also has an interest in funding projects that promote intercultural dialogue with Roma and other communities.

Information on EU countries where shared management projects occur is presented for each EU country and includes Roma National Strategy, funding, contacts details, and promising practices.

Questions for thinking

1. What can we do to get EU funds support?
2. How can we use EU funds?



Co-funded by the Rights,
Equality and Citizenship (REC)
Programme of the European Union



III. EU Funding links.

Key words: EU Funds

Starting Questions

1. Where can you get more information about EU funds and projects?

Definitions of terms:

1. **EU FUNDS.** The European Structural and Investment Funds are funds that work together to support economic, social and territorial cohesion and deliver the objectives of the EU's Europe 2020 strategy to generate smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

Content of the chapter

Guidance for Member States on the use of European Structural and Investment Funds in tackling educational and spatial segregation: Guidance note (424 kB)

ESF Roma Inclusion Learning Network (EURoma+Network):

Joint report on the use of structural funds for Roma inclusion based on country-by-country meetings: Full report and key findings and proposals

Practical handbook on monitoring and evaluation of Roma-related initiatives(324 kB) under ESI Funds

Practical handbook on mainstreaming of Roma inclusion in general programmes(317 kB) , projects and interventions

EURoma Network Guides:

Tackling Roma Needs in the 2014-2020 Structural Funds Programming Period

Making use of European Structural and Investment Funds for Roma inclusion. A Guide for local authorities (2014)

EU Project "Roma Families Get Involved": Guide for working with Roma Families(6 MB) towards achieving the success of their children at school



Co-funded by the Rights,
Equality and Citizenship (REC)
Programme of the European Union



Programming the Structural Funds for Roma Inclusion in 2014-20: Toolkit(4 MB)
from the Open Society Foundations (OSF)

World Bank Handbook(995 kB) for improving the living conditions of Roma at the
local level - January 2015

Practical Guide for Police services(981 kB) to prevent discrimination against the
Roma communities - Net-Kard project

Human rights litigation on behalf of the Roma - A guide for lawyers(2 MB) - Net-
Kard project

Practical Guide for Media professionals(971 kB) to prevent discrimination against
the Roma communities - Net-Kard project

Practical Guide for NGOs(953 kB) to prevent discrimination against the Roma
communities - Net-Kard project

Recommended Ressources

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma/roma-stakeholders/index_en.htm

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/project/2015/local-engagement-roma-inclusion-leri-multi-annual-roma-programme>

<http://www.errc.org/en-about-us-overview.php>

<http://www.erionet.eu>

<http://www.ergonetwork.org/ergo-network/>

<https://www.ertf.org/index.php/about-us/about/our-mission-goals>

<https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/about/programs/roma-initiatives>

Questions for thinking

1. Have we enough information about those funds and projects?
2. What information do we need? Where can we get them?