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Croatian perspective
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1/ Social and economic context

CROATIA - GENERAL DATA

- 56,594 sq km
- population 4,19 (2016 estimate), 4,284,889 (census 2011)
- 90.4 % Croats, 4.4 % Serbs, Roma 0.4 % - 0.8 % (17,000-30,000 persons)
- 22 constitutionally recognised (historical) national minorities, including Roma, Hungarians
- GDP 58.330 billion USD (nominal 2014), 13,943 USD per capita (nominal 2014) 51,945 billion USD (nominal estimate 2017) 12,405 USD (nominal estimate 2017)
- population below poverty line 19.4 % (2014)
- unemployment (more than 22 % Q1 2014; 18 % 1/2016, 13 % 8/2016; 15 % now)
1/ Social and economic context

ROMA IN CROATIA

- Key general problems: data and identity
- Census 2001: 9,463 (0.21 %)
- Census 2011: 16,975 (0.4%)
- Accepted estimates: 30,000-40,000
- Variety of Roma in Croatia (language, religion, origin...)
1/ Social and economic context

- Croatia consists of 21 counties, and according to the census the Roma live in 9 counties
- According to the CES register, the highest number of unemployed Roma is in the County of Međimurje, followed by the County of Osijek- Baranja…
1/ Social and economic context

ROMA IN CROATIA

Regional authorities

Zagreb county
Sisak-Moslavina county
Karlovac county
Varaždin county
Koprivnica-Križevci county
Bjelovar-Bilogora county
Primorsko goranska county
Lika-Senj county
Virovitica-Podravina county
Brod-Posavina county
Osijek-Baranja county
Istria county
Međimurje county
City of Zagreb
1/ Social and economic context

**EU Deprivation Index**
Share of people living in HHs which face at least 3 out of 8 deprivations

- ALB: Roma 98%, Non-Roma 86%
- BIH: Roma 96%, Non-Roma 64%
- CRO: Roma 86%, Non-Roma 42%
- MAC: Roma 93%, Non-Roma 67%
- MNE: Roma 93%, Non-Roma 68%
- SRB: Roma 96%, Non-Roma 61%
- MLD: Roma 90%, Non-Roma 78%

General Deprivation
1/ Social and economic context

Limited Access to Basic Needs
Share of population not having access to improved sanitation

UNDP-WB Household Survey 2011
1/ Social and economic context

Limited Access to Basic Needs
Share of population not having access to a improved water source

Water Source
1/ Social and economic context

![Diagram](image)

**Living Conditions**
Rooms per household member

- **ALB**: Roma 0.44, Non-Roma 0.62
- **B&H**: Roma 0.48, Non-Roma 0.66
- **CRO**: Roma 1.20, Non-Roma 1.15
- **MAC**: Roma 1.24, Non-Roma 1.13
- **MNE**: Roma 0.65, Non-Roma 0.63
- **SRB**: Roma 1.51, Non-Roma 1.08

Rooms per household member
1/ Social and economic context

Access to services
Share of HHs living in defined distances from closest general practitioner

Spatial Segregation
POVERTY AND LIVING STANDARDS (research on sample)

- **Absolute poverty** - $ 4.30 or $ 2.15 per day (not sensitive to national specificities). The relative poverty line - defined poverty according to national needs and cultural standards - below 60% of median national income.
- **Income** below $ 2.15 has 1.8% Roma and 1.3% of the general population, while income below $ 4.30 has 9% Roma and 5.5% other. Line from $ 4.30 is more appropriate Croatian society - almost 9% of Roma live in absolute poverty.
- **The rate of relative poverty** - 92.3% of Roma and 42% of general population living in close proximity to Roma (twice more than the Croatian average).
- **Roma families with children** are at greater risk of poverty than families without children.
1/ Social and economic context

POVERTY AND LIVING STANDARDS (research on sample)

- Employment average income of Roma is 3,517.15 HRK, and the general population 5,646.92 HRK.
- The sources of income for Roma households: the share of social assistance 38.3%; child benefit 34.2%; employment 20%; 12% of the incomes of the other work activities outside of employment.
- 35% of Roma and 19.3% of the general population was reported to be far behind with payment: payment of electricity (27.1% of Roma and 11.8% other), water (18.1% of Roma and 11.4% other), and other utilities (9% Roma and 7.9% other).
- The share of arrears in monthly income at Roma - 187.8% of their disposable monthly income; rest of the population - 99.8%.
1/ Social and economic context

POVERTY AND LIVING STANDARDS

- NOVEMBER 17, 2016 CROATIA PRESENTED RESULTS OF POVERTY MAPING - https://geostat.dzs.hr/
- GOHRRNM PROJECT OF COLLECTING BASELINE DATA ON ROMA NATIONAL MINORITY - MAPING ROMA,
- AND TOGETHER WITH NATIONAL POVERTY MAPING, A TOOL FOR BASELINE DATA AND MONITORING.
2/ Legislative framework
2/ Legislative framework

NATIONAL MINORITIES - FRAMEWORK

- Constitution
- Other legislative acts related to elections (from local to central level), on regional and local administration, culture, language, employment in public service (8 Roma)...
2/ Legislative framework

ROMA PARTICIPATION - ADVISORY BODIES

- Councils of national minorities as advisory bodies (28 Roma councils, 9 Roma representatives)
- Still poor capacities; problem of coordination, competition, relations with authorities and NGOs; traditional leaders
- 60 Roma women, no data on youth participation
2/ Legislative framework

ROMA PARTICIPATION - EXECUTIVE AND REPRESENTATIVE BODIES

- National Parliament (1 Roma + 7 NM / 151)
- County (regional) / Municipal (local) executive (2 Roma deputy mayors)
- County / municipal representative bodies - county assemblies - 1 Roma; municipal councils - 12 Roma in 11 councils)
2/ Legislative framework

GENDER AND ROMA POLICIES

- FRA 2013 Analysis of FRA Roma survey results by gender
- ERTF
- Evaluation of NRIS (2015)
2/ Legislative framework

GENDER AND ROMA CIVIL SOCIETY

- Poor capacities and participation, though increasing
- Almost 200 registered NGOs, 30 active
- (Traditional) male leader(ship)s
- From 3 activists (1990) to 5 Roma women NGOs (2015)
- National Platform and future activities for empowerment
2/ Legislative framework

ROMA YOUTH

- National Youth Framework
- Roma as a (national) minority
- Low capacities, poor participation and representation
- Some progress (education, limited activitism..)
- Recent activities for empowerment (young Roma networks, PGF training, GOHRRNM trainings…)
- Gender aspect of Roma youth
2/ Legislative framework

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK OF ROMA POLICIES

- National Roma Program 2003-2012
- AP Roma Decade 2005-2012
- National Roma Integration Strategy 2013-2020
- Local Action Plans (6 out of 10 counties)
- In addition to Roma participation also needs for coordination, integrated action...(the Evaluation of the AP NRIS implementation, 2015)
2/ Legislative framework

FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

- AP 2017-2020
- National Platform for Roma
- IPA 2012
- ESF
- ERDF
3/ Political National / Local Strategies / Investment of public resources
3/ Political National / Local Strategies / Investment of public resources

- National Roma Integration Strategy 2013-2020
- Challenges in the process of inclusion and improvement of socio-economical position of Roma community - integration in general (education, employment, economy inclusion, health & social care, infrastructure, habitation, protection of environment, inclusion in social and cultural life, NGO-s, antidiscrimination and human rights)
- Essential part of strategies - other national documents for social inclusion of disadvantaged (marginalized) groups
  - National curriculum (preschool, elementary and high school)
  - National plan for employment and education of adults
  - National programme for youth
  - National programme - human rights, health care, gender equality, anti-drug
  - and trafficking prevention and intervention programmes
3/ Political National / Local Strategies / Investment of public resources

- National programme for Roma community - infrastructure and habitation, preservance of Roma language and culture, citizenship, protection of family and women, political representation...

- AP Roma Decade 2005-2015

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>122,000 euro</td>
<td>374,000</td>
<td>1,600,000</td>
<td>1,900,000</td>
<td>2,383,300</td>
<td>5,287,400 (+ EU fonds)</td>
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</table>
3/ Political National / Local Strategies / Investment of public resources

- Strategies from NPRC (high school): encourage enrollment in high school (help in learning and school programme), necessary scholarships, financing accommodation in dorms, pressures from community

- Strategies from APRD - sistematic work on increasing enrollment in high school (especially 4 year) + work with parents, scholarships, accomodation, intercultural education of teacher (tolerance, learning culture), extra classes due to needs, career guidance (seminars, workshops etc.)
3/ Political National / Local Strategies / Investment of public resources

- general goal of NRIS - total inclusion

- specific goals: education (human capital), economy, health & social status, position in society

- **Education** +/-, preschool, elementary, highschool, lifelong

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<tr>
<td>Rate of inclusion</td>
<td>79,2%</td>
<td>81,0%</td>
<td>83,0%</td>
<td>85,0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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- 4 years high school only 10%
3/ Political National / Local Strategies / Investment of public resources

- **employment** - high rate of unemployment in general

- Roma community - marginalization, poor education, negative stereotypes (65%, in some villages even 100%)

- Roma women - most marginalized group, even lower rates of education & employment (early marriage - 4 children per family average, 2011. - 2.265 unemployed, 73.6% without elementary school, patriarchy, traditional roles…)

- goal of national strategy - balance between dominant culture and Roma community, better chances and inclusion on labour market, competitiveness and higher rate of employment for youth and adults, focus on long-term unemployed community members, motivational workshops, strengthen the capacity of Employment Bureau to work with Roma people

- measures from Employment Bureau - public work for long term unemployed and...
3/ Political National / Local Strategies / Investment of public resources

- **health care** - lesser life span (10 years, poorer health in general, Roma women - low consciousness about health issues and child care, discrimination etc.

- to increase the coverage and accessability of health care, focus groups - older, special needs, disabilities, women

- raise consciousness about importance of healthy life-style, protection of reproductive health & pregnant women and reducing teenage pregnancies

- sensibilization of employees in health care system and better communication (dialogue)

- diminish diseases connected with poor hygienic conditions

- fight against dependence and consumption of psychoactive drugs (and alcohol &
3/ Political National / Local Strategies /
Investment of public resources

- **social care** - 76% Roma people in absolute poverty (in Međimurje 78% social help), marginalization, segregation, poor living conditions, exclusion, patriarchy

- reduce poverty and increase quality of social services and accessibility

- focus on quality of life for children and youngsters

- empower local Roma community to combat family violence, trafficking and sexual violence and abuse
3/ Political National / Local Strategies / Investment of public resources

- **habitation & environment** - spatial planning, “Ghetto”, problems of legalization and project documentation, 16 decision makers across 13 regions, 25 spatial plans, infrastructure, waste removal and ecological consciousness

- improvement of all aspects of infrastructure

- secure order in property relations and legitimation

- ecological consciousness & clean villages
3/ Political National / Local Strategies / Investment of public resources

- anti-discrimination & inclusion in social/cultural enterprises and political participation

- Influence on public consciousness about the problem of prejudice and discrimination towards Roma people

- Development of better cooperation between local institutions and Roma chiefs (Roma council)- gathering field data and combating sources of discrimination

- Influence on hate crime speech and hate crime in cooperation with police, influence on high rate of criminal behaviour amongst Roma people

- Accessibility of information (eg.info spots), legal advices and help – mapping needs
4/ Social and economic support to target group

- **Crown of efforts** - preschool for all Roma children (6 years old)
- preschool 2012/2013 - 200 Roma children - 7 kindergarten providing programme cost - 2.600.000,00 kn
- free transportation (Ministry of education and sport) and free dorm accommodation, some elementary schools extended accommodation - 350 pupils included in 2012., education of teachers, combating dropping out school phenomena - 100 informational talks with parent and 50 children returned to school,
- conclusion - tendency of growth and inclusion in all educational levels
4/ Social and economic support to target group

- Employment Bureau - no official statistic of national minorities (approximation around 1000, 37.5% Roma women)
- general problems: poor education, lack of working habits and motivation (67% without work experience), long term unemployment, bad experiences of employers and prejudice (collective pressure), changing surnames
4/ Social and economic support to target group

County Orehovica: public work measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of employed</th>
<th>Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>112,913.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-15,000 Euros</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>136,392.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>176,439.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>158,890.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>151,837.72</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
4/ Social and economic support to target group

- measures from EB: conditions for employment in all economic branches with accent on young and women: workshops - CV, interview, self-evaluation; free training, individual counseling, assessment of work capacity, encouraging Roma community to embrace and participate in measure, meetings with employers and institutions to create more positive climate for inclusion and workplace equality, encouraging self-employment

- influence on greater enrollment of young people in high school, professional counseling - informing parents about deficitary professions, help with recommendations, statistics of realization, work group meeting of all key actors

- 87 Roma students included in 2012. and 57 parents, 350 meetings with
4/ Social and economic support to target group

- **health care** - Institute for Public Health in Međimurje
  
  - raising consciousness, monitoring vaccination - field work if necessary (mandatory quotes almost reached), workshops, systematic examination in elementary school (professional routing), workshops with Police department Međimurje (Kuršanec), workshops and info about reproductive health and pregnancy
  
- Health center - patronage nurses field work in Roma villages (few times a month); 2012 - 3118 visits

- **social care** - Department for social welfare - employment of professional to work with Roma community (2 employed in 2011. + volunteers), including students in field work, mentor work with Roma helpers, organizing free law counseling in communities (Law school), 68 social workers educated in 2011, 10 Roma women under

- NGO-s, Family center in Varaždin - workshops and seminars (Trafficking, economical violence, Responsibility in school etc.)
4/ Social and economic support to target group

- efforts to preserve traditional Roma culture - financing Roma NGOs - cultural amateurism, manifestations/festivals, publishing, informing, art projects and successes (Municipality, State, EU fonds)

- Sport activities “Sport for all” (football clubs), Črne strele - 200 euros

- musical workshops in school dorms, integration projects (NGO Sphere, ACT Group, Dawn, “Be a man club”, project “Roma”) etc.
4/ Social and economic support to target group

- Economical support and aid - state budget, municipality, regional support, decision makers, Employment Bureau, institutions, EU fonds, projects - House of Opportunity

- NGO sector - crucial role in social support (problems - occasional supports, burn out syndrom, unsustainability of programmes and project, questionable dialogue with Roma leaders - conflicts, dispersed actions and lack of political support, activities, disfunctional Roma NGOs, ineffective projects)

- preschool one of the key stones to integration (NGO, teachers, volunteers - “Story telling” Mala Subotica), documentary films and positive example

- activities in Roma villages - easier access to targeted users

- slow system and poor dialogue needs to be overcomed

- mapping (field work) needs of community for better use of public money, more political
4/ Social and economic support to target group

ROMA in 2014-2020 PROGRAMMING

- OP EFFICIENT HUMAN RESOURCES (ESF), OP COMPETITIVENESS AND COHESION (ERDF)
- NO REFERENCE IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (EARDF)
- ROMA NOT SELECTED AS AN INVESTMENT PRIORITY
4/ Social and economic support to target group

ROMA IN OP CC AND OP EHR

- OP CC investment priorities 9b "Providing support to the physical, economic and social reconstruction of affected communities in urban and rural areas",
- Specific objective 9.b.1 "sustainable physical, social and economic regeneration of deprived five pilot areas with the aim of reducing social inequalities, exclusion and poverty"
- Complementary soft activities under OP EHR, investment priorities 9.i "The active involvement, including with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation and employability of improvement",
- Specific objective 9.i.2 "Strengthening active involvement through the implementation of integrated pathways to regenerate five undeveloped pilot areas", which include investments in employment, social inclusion, social entrepreneurship and education.
- 20 MEUR from ERDF and 5 MEUR from the ESF.
4/ Social and economic support to target group
4/ Social and economic support to target group
4/ Social and economic support to target group

SOME LESSONS LEARNED

- accidental integrated interventions (Orehovica)
- poor involvement of local level
- missing community work
- missing links between stakeholders on all levels
- learning from others (integrated interventions, Pecs-HU example; CZ and SK community/field work...)


5/ Social Enterprise models
5/ Social Enterprise models

Quick overview

- first ‘social enterprises’ in Croatia started in 2008 (AED, NESsT...) - RODA; ACT Printlab, Zlatna greda...

- civil society initiatives - driving force of the sector - lack of entrepreneurial capacity, technical and practical skills and market experience

- the main way of delivering social impact is by employing vulnerable groups (young unemployed, persons with disabilities, women etc.) - WISEs

- operate in different sectors such as agriculture, environment and waste treatment, culture and tourism
5/ Social Enterprise models

Croatian SE eco-system

- no institutional support, no public support
- no official statistics on SE (estimation: 40-60 active SE)
- no financial support (neither for start-up or established social enterprises), no social investment market (ebanka, HR EUSEF...)
- no marks, labels or certification systems
- no specific law defining or regulating social enterprise in Croatia - can be established using a variety of legal forms - most common: hybrid organisations (non-profit organisations with trading arms), associations,
5/ Social Enterprise models

Croatian SE eco-system

- no structured investment readiness support
- no physical infrastructure (e.g. shared working space)
- no collaborations and access to markets
- few grants available (IPA/ERDF/ESF)
- some social entrepreneurship education (e.g. academic courses)
- some networking, knowledge sharing and mutual learning initiatives - main SE networks: Social Entrepreneurship Forum (SEFOR), Cluster for eco-social innovation and development (CEDRA HR)
5/ Social Enterprise models

Croatian SE eco-system

- policy makers: Ministry of Labor and Pension System, Ministry of Economy, Entrepreneurship and Crafts, National Foundation for Civil Society Development
- customers (authorities contracting SE) - /
- organisations promoting, certifying and awarding SE labels - /
- key providers of finance - /
- SE support/incubation: IHZ, SLAP, CEDRA Split, ACT Group
- research institutions: Institute Ivo Pilar, Faculty of Economics Osijek
5/ Social Enterprise models

Strategy for the Development of Social Entrepreneurship in the Republic of Croatia for the period of 2015-2020

- To establish and improve the legislative and institutional framework for the development of social entrepreneurship;

- To establish a financial framework for social entrepreneurship;

- To promote the importance of and the role of social entrepreneurship through formal and informal forms of education;

- To ensure the visibility of the role and possibilities of social entrepreneurship in Croatia and provide information to the general public.
5/ Social Enterprise models

Main barriers

- **External:**
  - 1/ lack of an enabling policy and legislative framework;
  - 2/ lack of visibility and understanding of the concept of social enterprise;
  - 3/ low access to financing

- **Internal:**
  - 1/ low levels of managerial and business skills among social enterprises,
5/ Social Enterprise models

Enabling factors for the future growth of SE in Croatia

- **Finance:** ebank initiative, corporate financing programs (AG/PNS)
- **Policy:** SE strategy, Civil society development strategy
- **Legal and tax regime:** /
- **SE support:** (WI)SEs national network (initiative)
- **Other:** numerous initiatives in local communities, existence of organisations that are able to encourage and promote SE
5/ Social Enterprise models

Recommendations

- Regulations should be further harmonized, taking into account the specifics of SE organizations.

- The tax treatment (income tax, profit tax, VAT) should be reviewed in order to develop an enabling and efficient system of tax deductions or exemptions for SE organizations.

- Through educational and promotional activities, decision-makers should be made familiar with the SE, social entrepreneurship and opportunities SE organizations offer through economic activities, employment and social actions in their local communities.
5/ Social Enterprise models

Recommendations

- **Access to finance** should be facilitated through development of specific funds and other financial instruments, as well as organizations such as ethical banks.

- **Visibility of SE actors** should be increased by initiating annual awards (like the Social Enterprise Annual Award), developing specialized media and shows, and through close partnerships with influential media.

- **Methodology for systematic monitoring and measurement of the impact and effectiveness of investments in SE organizations** should be developed and implemented.
5/ Social Enterprise models

Recommendations

- **Formal and non-formal systems and educational programs** should be further developed to build the capacities of organizations and individuals.

- **Multi-sectoral collaboration** should be encouraged through development of joint programs and initiatives of public, business and non-profit sector.
6/ Cartography / Map of Needs of target group and for the development of target groups

- There is a lack of statistical data on the Roma population (demographics, data on access and inclusion in the institutions of early and pre-school education). The reason for this lack is that the data are not being collected in regards to ethical affiliation in order to avoid negative discrimination.

- The Roma population mostly lives in separate, ethnically homogeneous parts of the settlements that are spatially separated from the rest of the settlement to which they belong. This way spatial differences are being created.
6/ Cartography / Map of Needs of target group and for the development of target groups

- Roma settlements mostly don’t have organized public services, such as schools, employment service offices, social welfare centres and so on.

- When they start to use public services, there are language barriers and a lack of understanding.

- Roma issues have been national recognized, at local and regional level. The problems of Roma nation are being bypassed or spontaneously regulated.
6/ Cartography / Map of Needs of target group and for the development of target groups

- Due to the low level of education and dependence on the social system, limited job opportunities and salaries/wages, Roma themselves don’t have a great interest in seeking employment. Likewise, potential employers have distrust in Roma job seekers because of their origin and identity. It is a vicious circle which is being breached by individual examples of good practice.
6/ Cartography / Map of Needs of target group and for the development of target groups

- Double discrimination of Roma women as most marginalized group (dominant culture & Roma community, patriarchy, education, health, employment, traditional roles, political participation ...)
- Crucial problems: teenage pregnancy, young families without support and experience, poor education, number of children not proportional to family possibilities - vicious circle,
- **Education** - need for easier access to adult education
- Employment Bureau - seminars & training courses (shoemakers, sewing, utility services) without efficiency due to low wages and lack of working places
6/ Cartography / Map of Needs of target group and for the development of target groups

- For all measures and strategies to be successful & sustainable we need to map needs of Roma community on the field considering their culture and tradition

- It is necessary to implement new programmes of adult education that are more competitive on the labour market and more interesting for Roma community - egz. IT sector, building capacities for NGOs and political participation & initiatives, need for mentorship programmes (high school, adults)

- Financial literacy, money management, male in control of family budget
6/ Cartography / Map of Needs of target group and for the development of target groups

- Easier access to language courses & learning to Roma women

- Psychological counseling (domestic violence, exclusion, ignorance, help with nurturing, self-awareness and confidence …)

- Informal education & youth centers

- Base for all mentioned needs to be satisfied is ensuring elementary LIFE CONDITIONS
7/ Exchange of a good and bad practices

Social agriculture cooperative Domači vrt (Čakovec, Međimurje County)

Woman Association Romona (Čakovec, Međimurje County)

Romska kuća / Roma House (Maglenča, Bjelovar)

Knjižnica alata / Tool Library (Beli Manastir, Baranya)

+ few IPA funded projects (Gastrostart, New skills for new business opportunities, etc.) and (self)employment initiatives financed through CES/REF
7/ Exchange of a good and bad practices

Social agriculture cooperative Domači vrt (Čakovec, Međimurje County)

Focus: ecological food production

Lessons learned:

- no political support from local government

- no support from local community (consumers)

- Roma self-employment and work integration doesn’t work (self-responsibility, work practice, condemnation by the Romani community, no business risk, employment measures, welfare cuts...)

  direct obstruction of project development by Roma leaders
7/ Exchange of a good and bad practices

Woman Association Romona (Čakovec, Međimurje County)
7/ Exchange of a good and bad practices

Woman Association Romona (Čakovec, Međimurje County)

Focus: textile screen printing

Lessons learned:

- project timeframe (12 m) is insufficient for continuos work with Roma women - providing support, direct work is necessary to provide for a longer period (it is ludicrous to expect that people who from birth live in poor conditions, do not know the language, do not have basic education will within a few months compensate all of the above mentioned deficits

- it is necessary to include in work with the Roma minority majority of the local population
7/ Exchange of a good and bad practices

Romska kuća / Roma House (Maglenča, Bjelovar)
7/ Exchange of a good and bad practices

Romska kuća / Roma House (Maglenča, Bjelovar)

Focus: tourism, cultural heritage

Lessons learned:

- Association Lovari - family initiative, self-financing project, low or now support from local government, tourist association or Ministry of tourism / culture

- they have no fundraising, PM skills - no help from support organisations

- direct obstruction of project development by Roma leaders, low support of Roma community
7/ Exchange of a good and bad practices

Knjižnica alata / Tool Library (Beli Manastir, Baranya)
7/ Exchange of a good and bad practices

Knjižnica alata / Tool Library (Beli Manastir, Baranya)

Focus: tool sharing, tool lending

Lessons learned:

- established through IPA funded project (2014) - great experience in EU funding by Luna Roma Association - low sustainability model

- low support of local community, low business income, no employment
8/ Open questions / Propositions
8/ Open questions / Propositions

NATIONAL LEVEL

- limited coordination on the national level of all stakeholders, effect multiplied due to centralisation and frequently poor capacities at local level (428 municipalities, 127 cities, 20 counties)

- limited capacities for additional engagement in many areas (health, Ministry of Labour)

- politicization, negative roles of ‘leaders’, limited capacities, poor networking ...

- opportunities (integrated interventions? microfinancing?…)
8/ Open questions / Propositions

LOCAL LEVEL

- each Roma community should have at least one community worker who has a short and long-term plans - it is important not to create high expectations, it is very important to go step by step, making individual plans with each beneficiary, continuously maintain the required level of their motivation (the best way is through short-term results)

- it is necessary to develop joint activities of Roma community and wider local community, where important role can have schools and local government units (joint playgrounds, parks, joint activities in the schools, etc.)
8/ Open questions / Propositions

LOCAL LEVEL

- Social Security Payments (SSP) provide a certain security for Roma, so it is unrealistic to expect that they will agree to lose this in return for several months paid contribution to the project/program activities.

- Roma reliance on specific active employment measures is a big risk due to year/year changes, it is impossible to plan anything - if they activate the employment measure, they loose SSP (once the measure ends, they need to go again through whole process of acquiring SSP).

- Roma leader obstruct project activities, create fear and insecurity in the community.
8/ Open questions / Propositions

OTHER?