



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
URAD ZA NARODNOSTI

Roma integration policy and coordination in the Republic of Slovenia

Legal framework (1)

- **Constitution** of the Republic of Slovenia, Article 65
- **Roma Community** in the Republic of Slovenia **Act**
- **15 sectoral laws** and sector specific programmes and strategies
- **National Programme of Measures for Roma** of the Governemnet of the Republic of Slovenia for the period **2010-2015**
- **National Programme of Measures for Roma** of the Governemnet of the Republic of Slovenia for the period **2017-2021**





Legal framework (2)

- **Roma Community in the Republic of Slovenia Act**
 - adopted in March **2007** – **amendment adopted only by the Government in March 2018** (dissolution of the National Assembly prior to the end of its four-year term)
 - **comprehensively** regulates the status of the Roma community in Slovenia
 - defines the **responsibilities** of state bodies and local self-governing community bodies for the implementation of the special rights of the Roma community,
 - provides for the **organisation** of the Roma community at the **national** and **local** levels
 - provides for **financing**



Legal framework (3)

- **Article 6** (of the Roma Community Act):
 - for the purpose of **coordinated implementation** of special rights of Roma community members, the Government, in cooperation with the self-governing local communities and the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia, shall adopt a **programme of measures**
 - **First National Programme of Measures for Roma** of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for the period **2010–2015** was adopted by the Government in March 2010
 - **Second National Programme of Measures for Roma** of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for the period **2017–2021** was adopted by the Government in May 2017 (May 25, 2017)



National Programme of Measures for Roma



- **Basic areas** to be covered in the programme of measures **defined in the Roma Community Act**
- following an analysis of the situation and taking into consideration the requests of the Roma community **basic strategic goals** of the **National Programme of Measures for Roma** were set

Strategic goals of National Programme (1)

1. EDUCATION:

To improve the **educational structure** of Roma and to improve the **attendance** of Roma children **at pre-school institutions** and to increase the number of Roma children in **compulsory education** and increase the **integration of young people and adults in continuing educational processes** in accordance with the lifelong learning principle



- Integration of **Roma assistants** into primary schools + cooperation in kindergartens
- Increase of social and cultural capital in Roma settlements with an implementation of **educational incubators** (study assistance, educational and extracurricular activities)
- Inclusion of Roma in the **apprenticeship system**
- Promotion of **language learning** for Roma children
- Enhancing **professional workers' competences**



Strategic goals of National Programme (2)

2. EMPLOYMENT:

To **increase employment** and to reduce unemployment of Roma, with an emphasis on the **employment activation** of the long-term unemployed and on **removing the obstacles** upon (re-)entering the labour market

➔ Inclusion of Roma in the state measures on the labour market – **active employment policy measures**



Strategic goals of National Programme (3)

3. SOCIAL INCLUSION

To **prevent and eliminate the exclusion of Roma, particularly women, children and young people**, to promote various programmes of **social security**, namely information and advisory programmes, **field work**, **day centres**, programmes of assistance and self-help, and to strengthen the awareness by Roma of such programmes



- Network of public services in the field of **social security programmes**
- Preparation of **guidelines and recommendations** for the work of social work centres 'professional workers **in cases of underage persons escaping to harmful environments**
- Activities for addressing the problem of **early, agreed and forced marriages**
- 7 **multipurpose centres** for Roma

Strategic goals of National Programme (4)

4. HEALTH CARE



To improve the **services of health care**,

to bring them closer to Roma and to improve their awareness on the issues relating to health and health care, particularly emphasising the health of women and children

- ➔ Proliferation of **health thematic areas**, programmes, workshops, trainings and transfer of best practices intended for Roma **in the communities where they live**
- ➔ education and **awareness raising** of the specialised public and medical staff of Roma and health
- ➔ implementation of **research and evaluations**
- ➔ Improvement of **health workers' competences**, integration and strengthening of the **cooperation** between health workers and the Roma assistants and **promotion of healthy lifestyle** among the Roma population

Strategic goals of National Programme (5)

5. HOUSING

To **improve the housing situation of Roma**,

to speed up the arrangement of settlements

with majority Roma population, to provide **access to public goods**, such as access to water and electricity, in accordance with national legal requirements and to encourage the elimination of actual spatial segregation, resulting from the historic settlement of Roma and long-term exclusion from social life



- **recommendations for municipalities** where Roma live to address the recorded existing Roma settlements in the process of preparing municipal spatial plans or amendments thereto
- implementation of **financial measures** for the development of areas where the Roma community lives
- **inter-ministerial working group**: preparation of proposals (legislative, organisational, financial) to improve housing conditions of Roma



Strategic goals of National Programme (6)

6. CULTURE

To **promote preservation and development of cultural, informative and publishing activities** of the Roma community and the Romani language as a minority language

- ➔ Support to various **cultural activities** in the field of Roma community and raising awareness of the Roma culture (tenders)
- ➔ Promotion of conservation and learning of the **Romani language** and the production of literature in the Romani (tenders)
- ➔ Stimulating **artists and professionals** working in the field of Roma cultural activities (tenders)
- ➔ Creating conditions for **training and employment** of Roma **in culture** (tenders)
- ➔ Promotion of **multiculturalism in general libraries**
- ➔ Radio and TV broadcasts





Strategic goals of National Programme (7)

7. AWARENESS RAISING, DISCRIMINATION

To **increase the awareness** of the Roma community and the majority population on the positive effects of the integration of Roma in society and of the wealth the Roma cultures bring into the Slovenian society and the **importance of non-discrimination**, and to enhance the **fight against anti-Roma rhetoric, hate speech and stereotypes and prejudices**

- **Financial support** to the **Roma Community Council** + **public tender** to support the activities of **other Roma organisations** for the improvement of the situation of Roma
- **Training of public servants** who meet the Roma community in the framework of their capacities
- Implementation of **police work in the community**



Strategic goals of National Programme (8)

8. DIALOGUE WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES

To **reinforce the dialogue and cooperation with the local communities** inhabited by the Roma and to establish an **active partnership** between the local and national level and the Roma community

→ **National Roma Platform** and its activities

- **dialogue and cooperation** of all relevant entities at local and national level
- **multidisciplinary teams** in the local communities
- encouraging local communities to form concrete **action plans** for the integration of Roma
- **training** of Roma councillors

→ **continuous dialogue** between the representatives of the Government and the local communities where Roma live

→ **Rural Development Programme 2014–2020** (implementation of operations in accordance with the community-led local development strategies)

NACIONALNA PLATFORMA
ZA ROME






Implementation of National Programme


- **All implementing bodies** (national authorities, authorities of self-governing local communities, Roma organisations) had to, on the basis of a national programme,
 - **within six months** after the adoption of the programme of measures adopt detailed sectoral programmes and measures – **action plans**
 - provide for the necessary **funds** earmarked in their financial plans



Monitoring of the implementation (1)

- **Goal no.1:** transparency and consistency of the policies and measures + improved **efficiency** + **improved situation** of Roma community

 **1. Network of coordinators** at the level of state secretaries, appointed by the competent ministries and governmental offices + **network of contact points** at the competent ministries and governmental offices

 **2. Coordinator** appointed by the **Roma Community Council** of the Republic of Slovenia



Monitoring of the implementation (2)

3. The functioning of the **Government Commission for the Protection of the Roma Community**

- special **government body**:
 - 8 representatives of national authorities
 - 4 representatives of the Roma Community Council
 - 4 representatives of municipalities
- monitoring of the realisation of the NPUR 2017–2021
 - regular monitoring of the implementation of measures by competent ministries at each session of the Commission (**tour de table**)
 - consideration of **government report** prior its adoption



Monitoring of the implementation (3)

4. Annual report by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on the situation of the Roma community in Slovenia and on the realisation of the NPUR 2017–2021

- Office for National Minorities in cooperation with ministries, Roma Community Council and municipalities, where Roma live, prepares a **report** on implementation, submits it to the Government
- Government submits report to the National Assembly for its consideration
- So far, 5 reports were prepared and adopted by the Government (some cover more reporting years, not only one)
- Last, 5th report, covers the period of 2015, 2016 and 2017. It was considered by the competent body in National Assembly in Sept. 2018



Monitoring of the implementation (4)

- **Goal no.2:** annual monitoring of the situation in the field of social integration of Roma community members in the environments where they live and the provision of the monitoring of the impact of the NPUR 2017–2021 measures (**evaluation**)



1. Annual evaluation of the situation in the area of social integration of Roma community members **in the environments where they live** and on the effects of the implementation of the NPUR 2017–2021 measures.



Organisation of the Roma community

- **Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia** represents the interests of the Roma Community in relation to the national authorities
- **Other Roma organisations and associations**
- **Roma councillors and special working bodies** for monitoring the status of the Roma community **established in municipalities** where representatives of the Roma community are elected to the municipal council (and also in some other municipalities where Roma live)



ZVEZA ROMOV
SLOVENIJE





Conclusion

- Representatives of the **Roma** community are fully involved in **decision-making process**, in **implementation** and in **monitoring** and **evaluating** of the programmes, policies and strategies that concerns them
- **Slovenia is willing to share its experiences**
- National Programme of Measures for Roma is also **available in English** (only working translation)



Thank you for your attention.

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