

Najbolja iskorišćenost fondova EU za potrebe Roma Making the Most of EU Funds for Roma – MtM

**PRIMERI DOBRE PRAKSE U INKLUZIJI ROMA
NA LOKALNOM NIVOU**

**EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE IN ROMA INCLUSION
ON THE LOCAL LEVEL**

**STUDIJE SLUČAJA U SRBIJI
SERBIA CASE STUDIES**

*Evropska mreža gradonačelnika
Gradonačelnici koji najviše doprinose korišćenju fondova EU za inkluziju Roma*

*European Network of Mayors
Mayors Making the Most of EU Funds for Roma Inclusion – MERI*

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- osnaživanje lokalne zajednice i promociju partnerstva i umrežavanja na svim nivoima.

Prikazani primeri dobre prakse zasnovani su na studijama slučaja koje je naš istraživački tim realizovao tokom jula-avgusta 2012. godine.

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Zahvaljujemo se predstavnicima svih opština prikazanih u ovoj publikaciji, koji su nam omogućili pristup podacima i na taj način doprineli da se njihove opštine prikažu kao primeri dobre prakse u inkluziji Roma.

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UVOD/SUMMARY

Najbolja iskorišćenost fondova EU za potrebe Roma (MtM) je instrument za povezivanje ciljeva Dekade Roma sa EU finansijskim sredstvima, i na taj način pružanje podrške evropskim, nacionalnim i lokalnim vlastima u ostvarivanju ciljeva Dekade inkluzije Roma. Kroz pomoć razvoju projekata, finansijskim i ljudskim kapacitetima i javnim zastupanjem, MtM nastoji da stvori kritičnu masu vladinih aktera na svim nivoima kako bi se inkluzija Roma zadržala visoko na političkim agendama. MTM podrška se odnosi na probleme kao što su slaba vidljivost romskih pitanja u sprovođenju EU kohezionih politika na nacionalnom i lokalnom nivou; nedostatak resursa i ekspertize, kao i previše birokratskih procedura finansiranja, koje blokiraju pristup najugroženijih grupa pravima i mogućnostima.

Making the Most of EU Funds for Roma (MtM) is an instrument to connect the Roma Decade objectives to EU financial resources, and thus support European, national, and local governments in realizing the targets of the Decade of Roma Inclusion. Through project development assistance, financial and human capacity-building, and advocacy, MtM seeks to create a critical mass of relevant governmental actors at all levels to keep Roma inclusion high on the policy agenda. MtM is concerned with problems such as the weak visibility of Roma issues in the implementation of EU cohesion policies at the national and local levels; resource and expertise disadvantages; and overly bureaucratic funding procedures, which block access of the most deprived to rights and opportunities.

Mreža gradonačelnika koji najviše doprinose korišćenju fondova EU za inkluziju Roma (MERI), kao deo MtM promoviše socijalnu inkluziju i integraciju Roma kroz razmenu iskustava iz prakse i učenje širom zemalja Evrope i ističe rezultate na lokalnom nivou. Takođe, kroz unapređenje lokalnih opštinskih kapaciteta, mreža MERI ima u planu da privuče veći broj fondova EU na lokalni nivo.

European Network of Mayors - Mayors Making the Most of EU Funds for Roma Inclusion – MERI, as part of the MtM, promote social inclusion and Roma integration through sharing of experiences and learning practices across European countries and highlights the results at the local level. Also, by improving the local municipal capacities, the MERI plans to attract more EU funds to the local level.

I OPŠTINA APATIN

"FUNKCIONISANJE LOKALNE ZAJEDNICE U ROMSKOM NASELJU"

Opština Apatin ima ukupno 3.500 Roma. Među njima, oko 3.000 Roma živi u romskim naseljima, što čini 86% romske populacije u opštini. Prema klasifikaciji naselja, to je predgrađe, naseljeno još u 19. veku. Status zemljišta u urbanističkim planovima nije regulisano, zbog nedostatka sredstava. Opština nastoji da finansijskim i birokratskim merama pomogne pomogne građanima i proces legalizacije je u toku. Pravni status objekata u naselju nije formalan, zbog nedostatka sredstava za obavljanje legalizacije. Zemljište je vlasništvo opštine i delom u privatnom vlasništvu. Najveći broj stanovnika su starosedeoci.

Većina stambenih jedinica je izgrađena od čvrstog materijala, imaju čvrste podove, kupatila i toalete. Dalekovod struje prolazi kroz selo. Većina stambenih jedinica ima legalnu vezu sa električnom mrežom. Naselje ima sistem za odvođenje površinskih voda, a u većini ulica postoji ulična rasveta. Selo ima predškolsku ustanovu. Tu je i ambulanta, dom zdravlja se nalazi 5km od centra sela i policijske stanice. Prodavnice, sportski objekti i kulturne institucije su u blizini.

Opština Apatin podržava razvoj romske zajednice tako što je uvedeno mesto romskog koordinatora, a usvojeni su i primenjuju se lokalni akcioni planovi za Rome 2010-2015. Opština je dala veliki doprinos poboljšanju obrazovnog nivoa Roma, mogućnosti zapošljavanja, razvoju zdravstvene zaštite i očuvanju nacionalnog identiteta.

Najviše je postignuto u oblasti stanovanja, gde je romsko naselje dovedeno u stanje da dobije status lokalne zajednice. To sve doprinosi poboljšanju opšteg stanja romske zajednice, kao i suživotu sa ostalim građanima u opštini Apatin.

MUNICIPALITY OF APATIN

"The Functioning of Local Community in the Roma Settlement"

Apatin municipality has 3.500 Roma. Among them, around 3.000 of Roma live in Romani settlements, which makes 86% of total Roma population in the municipality. According to the classification of settlements, it is a suburb, inhabited since the 19th century. Status of land in urban plans is not regulated, due to lack of funds. The municipality strives with financial and bureaucratic measures to help its citizens and the legalization process is ongoing. The legal status of objects in the settlement is not formal, due to lack of funds to carry out legalization. Land ownership is municipal and partly privately. The largest population are natives.

Most of the housing units were built of solid material, have concrete floors, bathrooms and toilet. Transmission line of electricity passes through the village. Most residential units have a legal connection to the electrical grid. The settlement has a system for drainage of surface water and street lights. The settlement has a preschool institution. There's also an ambulance; a health center is situated 5km from the village and police station. Shops, sports facilities and cultural institutions also exist in the neighborhood.

Apatin municipality supports development of the Roma Community by establishing systemized position of the Roma Coordinator in local administration. Also, the local action plans 2010-2015. were adopted and are being implemented. The municipality made a great contribution to improve the educational level of Roma, provided employment opportunities, employment opportunities, development of health care and preservation of national identity. Most work has been done in the field of housing where Roma settlement was brought into the state to obtain the status of the local community.

This all contributes to improving the general condition of the Roma community, as well as coexistence with other citizens in the Municipality of Apatin.

II OPŠTINA BEOČIN

"Desegregacija u predškolskoj ustanovi"

Opština Beočin je bila jedna od prvih u Srbiji koja je izradila i usvojila lokalni akcioni dokument u kojem su Romi eksplicitno navedeni kao prioritetna ciljna grupa. Skupština opštine je na sednici 17. decembra 2010. godine usvojila Lokalni akcioni plan za unapređenje obrazovanja Roma. Prethodni LAP iz ove oblasti realizovan je u periodu 2007-2011. godine.

Predškolska ustanova "Ljuba Stanković" (www.pu-ljstankovic.edu.rs), nosi ovo ime od 1976. i postojanje predškolskog obrazovanja u Beočinu datira sa početka XX veka. To je jedina predškolska institucija u opštini. Ona ima sedam objekata, koji pokrivaju najveći deo opštine.

Tokom realizacije projekta DILS "Inkluzija u akciji" na površini se pojavio dugo zapostavljen problem romske populacije kada je u pitanju obrazovni status, a to je segregacija. Rešavanje problema segregacije je najbolji primer kako se zajedničkim naporima svih relevantnih aktera i partnera može rešiti neki od najvećih problema.

Predškolsko i osnovno obrazovanje obuhvata oko 300 romske dece, a trenutno nemamo podatke o broju dece koja ostaju izvan obrazovnog sistema. U predškolskoj ustanovi "Ljuba Stanković" u toku 2011-2012. godine, prepoznat je problem segregacije koji je potom rešen zahvaljujući, između ostalog, i pozitivnom stavu lokalnih vlasti. Naime, pre sprovođenja DILS projekta romska dece pohađala su predškolsku ustanovu samo u popodnevnoj smeni, a ne-Romi, u jutarnjoj smeni. Takođe, postojao je nedostatak obučenih nastavnika kao i zajedničke aktivnosti sve dece i njihovih roditelja.

U početnoj fazi projekta DILS pitanje odvojenih odeljenja u predškolskoj ustanovi nije bio vidljiv. Tokom poseta monitoring mentora, angažovanog za tu namenu, ispostavilo se da su romska deca pohađala predškolsku ustanovu samo u popodnevnoj smeni. Ovo odeljenje je bilo čisto romsko i deca su tu provodila samo dva sata tokom popodneva. Tokom sastanaka sa predstvincima predškolske ustanove glavni argument razdvajanja romske dece bila je činjenica da roditelji te dece ne rade a imaju dovoljno vremena da se brinu o deci. Kao jedan od argumenata za segregaciju zaposleni u instituciji su naveli i nedostatak prostora i velik broj dece u jutarnjoj smeni.

Predstavnici romskih NVO, romski koordinator, DILS projektni tim i mentorka kao i predstavnici lokalne samouprave aktivno su se uključili u izradu i implementaciju projekta kojim je zajednički rešen ovaj problem i hitna potreba za desegregacijom.

MUNICIPALITY OF BEOČIN

"Desegregation at preschool institution"

Beočin municipality was one of the first in Serbia that adopted local action plan which explicitly named Roma as priority target group. The local assembly adopted the Local Action Plan for Improvement of Education of Roma on 17. December 2010. The previous LAP in this area had been implemented in the period 2007-2011. Previous LAP in this area was implementing from 2007 to 2011, and the same is realized.

Preschool "Ljuba Stankovic" (www.pu-ljstankovic.edu.rs), bears this name since 1976 and the existence of preschool education in Beočin dates from the beginning of the XX century. This is the only preschool institution in the municipality. It's seven objects cover the whole territory of the municipality.

During the implementation of DILS project "Inclusion in Action" one of the most neglected problems regarding education of Roma emerged: the problem of segregation.

The way that municipality of Beočin addressed the issue of segregation of Roma children in preschool institution is the best example of how the joint efforts of all relevant actors and partners can solve some of the biggest problems. This is why the example described here is the case of good practice.

Preschool and primary school education covers approximately 300 Roma children, and currently we have no data on the number of children who remain outside the education system. Within the preschool institution "Ljuba Stankovic" during the 2011-2012 year, there was a crucial problem of segregation, was solved thanks to the positive attitude of the Municipality. Namely, before the implementation of the DILS Project Roma children were attending preschool only in the afternoon shift, and non-Roma, in morning shift. Also, there was a lack of trained teachers and joint activities for children and parents.

In the initial phase of the DILS project question of segregated classes in preschool was not very visible. During monitoring of the mentor engaged for this purpose it turned out that Roma children were attending preschool only in afternoon shift. This group consisted only of Romani children attending preschool only two hours per day, in the afternoons. During the meetings with preschool representatives, the main argument for the separation of Roma children, was the fact that parents of those children were not employed, and have enough time to take care of the children. The preschool institution representatives also presented other arguments, such as that there were too many children in the morning shift, lack of space etc.

Roma NGOs representatives, Roma Coordinator, DILS Project team, Mentor, as well as local self-government representatives were actively involved in preparation but also implementation of this Project, and with joint efforts contributed to the solution of this urgent need and problem solving.

III OPŠTINA KOCELJEVA

"Edukativna podrška romskoj deci u pohađanju nastave"

Koceljeva je opština sa velikim procentom romske populacije u kojoj su, uprkos teškoj ekonomskoj situaciji, napravljene značajne investicije za obrazovanje romske dece. Koceljeva je jedna od retkih opština u Srbiji, gde su lokalne vlasti shvatile potrebu za stimulacijom romske dece da upišu i završe srednjoškolsko obrazovanje, i u vezi sa tim iz opštinskih budžetskih sredstava se izdvaja, u poslednje dve godine, stimulacija za upis u srednje škole, sredstva za besplatne udžbenike i prevoz.

Što se tiče ugroženih i marginalizovanih grupa u opštini Koceljeva, Romi su u najgorem položaju. Predškolsku ustanovu pohađa 41 romsko dete, u osnovnoj školi ima 1.143 Roma, a u visokim školama 7 romske dece iz Koceljeve.

Oko 30% upisane romske dece završe osnovnu školu, dok 70% dece napušta školu, uglavnom između petog i osmog razreda. Većina dece koja počinju obavezno obrazovanje ne prisustvuju redovno nastavi, a njihovi uspesi su slabi zbog nedostatka podrške kako u školi tako i kod kuće. Razlog za veliki broj izostanaka u školi je dečji rad. To su uobičajeni sezonski poslovi kao što su branje voća, kukuruza, itd, a tokom sezonskih meseci, oko 90% dece je odsutno iz škola, počevši od devete godine starosti.

Osnovna škola se nalazi u selu Draginje gde živi većina romske populacije i broj romskih učenika u ovoj školi je veći od broja ne-Roma (52.45%) a problemi napuštanja obrazovanja su prisutni/evidentirani samo među romskim učenicima. Na osnovu tih problema i inicijative za podršku romskim učenicima i njihovim rodicama uspostavljen je produženi boravak za 35 romske dece, u cilju da se obezbedi redovno pohađanje škole i bolji kvalitet njihovog obrazovanja. Škola u kojoj su više od 52% učenika Romi (i odnos ukupnog broja stanovnika u Draginju je sličan), uspešno odgovara na izazov obrazovanja romske dece. Problem segregacije je ublažen, uključivanjem mešovite grupe dece (romske i neromske dece) u svakom odeljenju, uključivanjem romske dece u Učenički parlament i uključivanjem roditelja romske dece u rad školskog Saveta. Romska deca koja su pohađala dodatnu nastavu 2011/12. ostvarila su značajan napredak u kvalitetu znanja, kao i u redovnom pohađanju nastave.

Lokalna samouprava pruža podršku radu, naporima ove škole, kao i finansijsku podršku u okviru svojih mogućnosti.

MUNICIPALITY OF KOCELJEVA

"Educational Support to Roma Children in Elementary School"

Koceljeva is a municipality with a high percentage of Roma population in which despite the difficult economic situation and poverty, significant investments for education of Roma children have been made. Koceljeva is one of the few municipalities in Serbia, where local authorities realized the need for stimulation of Roma children to enroll and complete secondary school education, and related to that from the municipal budget funds are allocated, in last two years, to stimulate enrollment in high schools and provide children with free textbooks and transportation. Regarding vulnerable and marginalized groups in Koceljeva municipality, Roma are in the worst position. The preschool institution is attended by 41 Roma children, the primary school by 1.143, and the high schools by 7 Roma children from Koceljeva.

Around 30% of enrolled Roma children complete primary school, while 70% of children leave school, mostly between the fifth and eighth grade. Most of children who start compulsory education do not attend classes regularly, and their achievements are poor due to lack of support both in school and at home. The reason for the large number of absences at school, and later dropouts, is the child labor. These are usual seasonal jobs such as picking fruit, corn, etc, and during the seasonal months, about 90% of children are absent from school, starting from the age of 9. Furthermore, it seems that Roma children do not have role models to identify with. As their parents mostly are illiterate children do not achieve greater success, while some parents believe that their children do not have to go to school after the fourth grade, especially girls.

Since the school is located in the village with majority of Roma population and the number of Roma students in this school is almost greater than the number of non-Roma, (52.45%) and the problems of attrition and dropping out of education is present/recoded only among Roma pupils. On the basis of those problems, an initiative to support Roma pupils and their families in order to secure regular school attendance and better quality of education was raised. Extended sojourn for 35 Roma children has been established.

School where more than 52% are Roma students (and the ratio of total population in Dragnje is similar), successfully answers the challenge of education of Roma children. The problem of segregation is mitigated by including mixed groups of children (Roma and non Roma children) in each class, by including of Roma children in the Student Parliament and involving of the parents of Roma children in the work of the school Council. Roma children who attended extended classes in 2011/12. achieved significant progress in the quality of knowledge, as well as regularity of attendance.

Local self-government provides support to the work, efforts and attends of this School, as well as financial support, within its capabilities.

"Prevencija prosjačenja - model integrisanih javnih službi, podrška romskim porodicama u Kragujevcu "

Gradski Savet za bezbednost suočio se sa pitanjem prosjačenja tokom razmatranja problema zlostavljanja i zanemarivanja dece na teritoriji Kragujevca. Pošto je ovo uglavnom oblast socijalne politike, a postoji jaka međusektorska saradnja između lokalnih institucija, Centar za socijalni rad i Kancelarija za romska pitanja su sproveli kratku analizu lokalne situacije u vezi sa decom koja se bave prosjačenjem na ulicama Kragujevca. Analiza je fokusirana na već poznatu decu koja su bila prisutna na ulicama nekoliko godina. Cilj analize bio je da razmotri situaciju u njihovim porodicama sa akcentom na položaj dece u ovim porodicama, kao i da se predlože moguća rešenja za njihove probleme. Analiza je obuhvatila 13 porodica sa 61 detetom: svi od njih su već u sistemu socijalne zaštite, kao korisnici neke vrste socijalne pomoći. Karakteristike porodica koje su bile ispitane su: veličina porodice, stambeni status, obrazovni status roditelja i dece, socijalna pomoć koju primaju... Za sve porodice je nađeno da imaju zajedničko da su svi interna raseljena lica, sa mnogo dece, i pripadaju romskoj nacionalnoj manjini. Analiza je pomogla timu da identificuje glavne uzroke činjenice da je u ovim porodicama praksa da se bave prosjačenjem. Na osnovu analize položaja porodica koje praktikuju prosjačenje na teritoriji Kragujevca, Grad je izradio i usvojio Akcioni plan za prevenciju i smanjenje prosjačenja u 2011.

Multisektorski tim je osnovan kao deo gradskog saveta za bezbednost. Tim se sastoji od predstavnika gradske vlasti, Centra za socijalni rad, škole, policije, suda, tužilaštva, kao i NVO-a. Zadatak tima je bio da precizno identificuje prosjačenje, kao zajednički lokalni problem i da izradi akcioni plan za sprečavanje i borbu protiv njega.

Iako previše ambiciozan (priznato od strane članova tima) za predviđeni rok od 6 meseci, ovaj plan je primer kako se kako se višeproblemske porodice mogu podržati putem integrisanog delovanja velikog broja institucija u lokalnoj zajednici. Tim koristi maksimum iz lokalnih resursa zajednice: socijalne službe, lokalnih socijalnih fondova, usluga lokalnih agencija, postojećih protokola i obrazovanih ljudskih resursa.

Lokalna samouprava izdvaja sredstva za ove aktivnosti iz lokalnog budžeta, ali je takođe u potrazi za drugim izvorima finansiranja.

"Prevention of Begging –the Model of Integrated Community Services' Support to Roma Families in Kragujevac"

The City Security Council faced the issue of begging during reviewing the issue of child abuse and neglecting on the territory of Kragujevac. Since it was mainly social policy issue, and there is strong inter-sectorial cooperation (with signed protocol on cooperation) among local institutions, Center for Social Work and the Office for Roma issues took brief analysis of the local situation regarding street children and children who were begging on the Kragujevac streets. The analysis had focused on already known children who were present on the streets for several years. The objective of the analysis was to review the situation of their families with emphasise on the position of children in these families, and to propose possible solutions for their problems. The analysis included 13 families with 61 child: all of them were already in the social welfare system as users of some kind of social assistance. The following family characteristics were observed: the size of the family, housing status of the family, educational status of parents and children, social assistances they had received... The families had in common that all of them had been internally displaced, with lot of children, and belong to Roma national minority. The analysis helped the team to identify the main causes of the fact that these families had practiced begging.

Based on the analysis of the position of families who practiced begging in the territory of Kragujevac, the City created and adopted the action plan for prevention and decreasing of the begging in 2011. The multi-sectorial team was established and attached to the City Security Council. The team consists of the representatives of the City government, Center for Social Work, School administration, Police, Court, Prosecutors' office and NGO-s. The task of the team was to precisely identify the begging as joint local issue and create an action plan to prevent and combat against it. On 19.08.2011. the Working Group was formally established by the Security Council, to create, implement and monitor the Action plan for Prevention and Decreasing the Begging Issue in Kragujevac.

Although too ambitious (as recognized by the team members, too) for the predicted period of 6 months, this plan is the example how the multi-problem families can be assessed and supported through integrated action of large number of institutions in local community. The team is using maximum from the local community resources: social services, local social funds, services of the local agencies, existing protocols and educated human resources. Local self-government is allocating funds for these activities from the local budget, but is also searching for other funding sources.

"Romski asistent u Centru za socijalni rad"

Glavni oblik socijalne pomoći koju su socijalno ugroženi Romi najčešće primali u periodu obuhvaćenom ovom studijom bilo je materijalno obezbeđenje porodice MOP, koje se sprovodilo preko Ministarstva rada i socijalne politike odnosno nadležnog Centra za socijalni rad. Prema Zakonu o socijalnoj zaštiti i obezbeđivanju socijalne sigurnosti građana od 2005. godine iznos MOP je bio jedinstven za celu teritoriju R Srbije. Pravo na MOP u 2005. je za korisnike ograničeno na 9 meseci u jednoj kalendarskoj godini. Od ukupnog broja primalaca socijalne pomoći u Leskovcu, 65% su romske porodice.

Romi se suočavaju sa problemom nedostatka informisanosti i nepoznavanja osnovnih prava, kako da tim pravima pristupe, koje su im usluge na lokalnom nivou dostupne i kome treba da se obrate.

Grad Leskovac je prepoznao ovaj problem i prvi projekat koji je realizovan u ovoj oblasti je angažovanje romskog socijalnog asistenta, u cilju informisanja, olakšavanja i podrške Romima u pristupu njihovim pravima i prikupljanju dokumentacije potrebne u ostvarivanju prava u oblasti socijalne zaštite.

Rezultati su veoma vidljivi:

- Više od 400 romskih građana su tražili podršku u ostvarivanju nekih prava socijalne zaštite
- Komunikacija između građana i socijalnih radnika je mnogo lakša
- Donošenje NSP odluka je mnogo brže i lakše.

Grad Leskovac ima sistematizovano radno mesto romskog socijalnog asistenta. Štaviše, u okviru usvojenog Lokalnog akcionog plana za Rome postoji poseban deo posvećen socijalnoj zaštiti, sa definisanim konkretnim merama i aktivnostima, koje je lokalna samouprava već počela da sprovodi:

- Podizanje nivoa svesti o pravima Roma u oblasti socijalne zaštite
- Proizvodnja i distribucija informativnog materijala
- Pružanje konsultantskih usluga u ostvarivanju prava u socijalnoj zaštiti
- Aktivan pristup rešavanju problema Roma koji su korisnici socijalnih mera zaštite
- Jačanje romskih NVO sa ciljem da se poboljša pristup institucijama
- Obuka zaposlenih u javnim institucijama o antidiskriminaciji i toleranciji

Grad Leskovac je dao ogroman doprinos poboljšanju obrazovnog nivoa Roma, od osnivanja Romskog obrazovnog centra, mogućnosti zapošljavanja, razvoja zdravstvene zaštite, do očuvanja nacionalnog identiteta. Štaviše, mnogi projekti sprovode se u oblasti stanovanja, gde se rekonstruiše Romsko naselje i životni uslovi Roma se poboljšavaju. To sve doprinosi poboljšanju opšteg stanja romske zajednice, kao i suživotu sa ostalim građanima u gradu Leskovcu.

CITY OF LESKOVAC

"Roma Assistant in Social Work Centre"

The main form of social assistance that socially vulnerable Roma usually received in the period covered by this study was MOP (financial assistance to the family). This assistance was implemented through the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, and the local Center for Social Work. According to the Law on Social Protection and Social Security of Citizens, in 2005 the amount MOP was unique for the whole territory of R Serbia. In line with this, the right on MOP for the workable users was limited to nine months during calendar year. According to the Center for Social Work Leskovac, Roma families make 65% of total social assistance recipients in Leskovac.

Roma are facing with the problem of lack of informing and ignorance about basic rights and how to access those rights and which are the services at local level they should address to. The City recognized this problem and the first project that was implemented in this area, was engagement of the Roma social assistant, aiming at informing, facilitation and support Roma in accessing their rights and gathering documentation required to become eligible for social services.

The results are very visible:

- more than 400 Roma citizens applied for some social service
- communication between citizens and social workers is much easier
- administration of NSP decisions are much faster and easier.

The City of Leskovac has systematized the position of Roma social assistant. Moreover, within the adopted Local Action Plan for Roma there is special part dedicated to social protection, with defined specific measures and activities, that local self-government is starting to implement:

- Raising level of awareness on the rights of Roma in the field of social protection
- Production and distribution of informational materials
- Providing consulting services in the exercise of rights in social protection
- Active approach to solving the problems of Roma who are beneficiaries of social protection measures
- Strengthening Roma NGOs for community works aiming to improve access to institutions
- Training for public institutions employees on antidiscrimination and tolerance

The municipality gave a huge contribution to improvement of the educational level of Roma, by establishing of the Roma Educational Centre, employment opportunities, development of health care, preservation of national identity.

Moreover, many projects in the field of housing are being implemented, and Roma settlements are being reconstructed and living conditions of Roma improved.

This all contributes to improving the general condition of the Roma community, as well as coexistence with other citizens in the City of Leskovac.

VI NACIONALNI SAVET ROMSKE NACIONALNE MANJINE

"Afirmativne mere"

Nacionalni savet romske nacionalne manjine osnovan je 2003. godine na osnovu Zakona o ljudskim i manjinskim pravima i Povelje o ljudskim pravima. Prema svojoj organizaciji, NSRNM je jedan od najvećih nacionalnih saveta nacionalnih manjina u Srbiji. Sastoji se od 35 članova. On obavlja svoje aktivnosti putem centralne kancelarije u Beogradu i regionalnih i lokalnih kancelarija. NSRNM je legitimni predstavnik Roma u Srbiji i ima kulturnu i obrazovnu autonomiju.

Na osnovu Zakona o zaštiti prava i sloboda nacionalnih manjina, Nacionalni savet romske nacionalne manjine sprovodi mere afirmativne akcije za upis učenika romske nacionalnosti u srednje i visoke škole i fakultete.

Mera afirmativne akcije za upis u srednje škole predstavlja podršku za učenike koji su položili prijemni ispit ali dobijaju i dodatne poene kako bi se upisali u jednu od prioritetnih škola. Za upis na fakultete, mere afirmativne akcije se primenjuju na kandidatima koji su položili prijemni ispit i imaju rang samofinansirajućih studenata i studenata koji nisu na listi; a koji se zatim upisuju kao studenti koji se finansiraju iz državnog budžeta na osnovu Odluke nadležnog organa, što je ključna uloga u pristupu Roma visokom obrazovanju. Pre sprovođenja mera afirmativne akcije, do 2003. godine, srednje škole i fakulteti u Srbiji imali veoma mali broj romskih učenika i studenata, a nakon 2003. godine, tokom sprovođenja mera afirmativne akcije, taj broj je porastao. Sprovođenjem mera afirmativne akcije, do sada je upisano oko 2000 srednjoškolaca, dok je oko 1000 romskih studenata upisano na fakultete.

Na osnovu navedenih činjenica možemo utvrditi efikasnost mera jer na taj način Romi dobijaju direktnu priliku za promociju i napredak.

Pored mera za upis, takođe postoje mere za smeštaj u studentskim domovima, kao i za stipendije. S obzirom na težak položaj Roma, studenti koji se školuju van svog prebivališta, u udaljenim mestima, a koji su u potrazi za studentskim domom, imaju mogućnost da se prijave za njega. Da bi studenti bili u mogućnosti da redovno pohađaju nastavu, u okviru redovnog konkursa Ministarstva prosvete Republike Srbije za studentske stipendije, poseban deo budžeta izdvaja se za stipendiranje romskih učenika. Ako neko želi da koristi mere afirmativne akcije, on ili ona mora da podnese potrebne dokumente Nacionalnom savetu romske nacionalne manjine u Beogradu ili Kancelariji za inkviziciju Roma AP Vojvodine u Novom Sadu.

Uvođenje mera afirmativne akcije za promociju obrazovanja Roma je od velikog značaja i najbolji rezultat rada Republike Srbije, jer svakoj zajednici je prioritet obrazovanje, kroz koji nastaju uslovi za unapređenje drugih oblasti u životu. Uloga i značaj mera se ogleda u broju učenika romske nacionalnosti koji su uključeni u obrazovni sistem, kao i broj diplomaca..

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ROMA NATIONAL MINORITY

"Measures of Affirmative Action"

The National Council of Roma National Minority was founded in 2003 on the basis of the Law on Human and Minority Rights and Charter of Human Rights. According to its organization, NCRNM is one of the largest national councils of national minorities in Serbia. It consists of 35 members. It performs its activities via central office in Belgrade and regional and local offices. NCRNM is a legitimate representative of the Roma in Serbia and it has a cultural and educational autonomy. On the basis of the Law on the Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, the NCRNM has been conducting Measures of affirmative action for the enrollment of Roma students on high schools, colleges and faculties. Measures of affirmative action for the enrollment on high schools represent a support for students who passed their entrance exam by getting extra points in order to enroll on one of the prioritized schools. For the enrollment on colleges and faculties, the Measures of affirmative action are applied to candidates who passed entrance exam and have a rank of selffinancing students or students not on the list, by enrolling them as students financed by the state budget based on the Decision of the body in charge, which is a crucial role in the approach of the Roma to higher education. Before the conduction of the Measures of affirmative action, until 2003, colleges and faculties in Serbia had a very small number of Roma students, while after 2003, in the period of the conduction of the Measures of affirmative action, that number has increased. By conducting the Measures of affirmative action for enrollment, so far approximately 2000 have enrolled on high schools, while approximately 1000 Roma students enrolled on colleges and faculties. Based on the above mentioned facts, we can determine the efficiency of measures, because in that way, the Roma are given a direct chance for promotion and progress.

Besides Measures for enrollment, there are also Measures for accommodation in student dormitories, as well as for scholarships. Considering Roma's difficult position, students who are educated outside their residency, in distant places, and who are in need of a student dormitory, have the possibility to apply for it.

In order for the students to be able to regularly attend classes, within a regular Open Competition of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Serbia for student scholarships, a special part of the budget is allocated for Roma students' scholarships. If someone wishes to use the Measures of affirmative action, he or she must submit necessary documents to the National Council of the Roma national minority in Belgrade and the Roma Inclusion Office of AP Vojvodina in Novi Sad.

The introduction of the *Measures of affirmative action* for the promotion of the education of Roma is of great significance and the best result of the work of the Republic of Serbia, because every community's priority is education, through which conditions for the improvement of other areas of life are achieved. The role and significance of the Measures is reflected in the number of students of Roma nationality who are included in the educational system, as well as the number of graduates.

VII OPŠTINA NOVA CRNJA

"Efekti političke participacije Roma u opštini Nova Crnja"

Nova Crnja je opština koja je prva u Vojvodini zaposlila koordinatora za romska pitanja. Opština je uključena u inicijative Vlade AP Vojvodine koje donose promene u sistemu na lokalnom nivou u cilju unapređenja obrazovnog i zdravstvenog položaja Roma, kao i povećanje nivoa njihovog zaposlenja.

Opština Nova Crnja zaposlila je romskog koordinatora 2008. godine, koji je u isto vreme zauzeo visoko mesto u opštinskoj vlasti kao član Opštinskog veća zaduženog za socijalnu zaštitu. Postavljanjem predstavnika romske nacionalne zajednice na visoku funkciju u lokalnoj samoupravi, opština je otvorila brojne mogućnosti za dalji rad na poboljšanju položaja Roma u opštini. Ovo je takođe odličan primer dobre prakse za druge opštine u Vojvodini, gde Romi, ako su i angažovani, često su na najnižim pozicijama.

Učešćem romskog koordinatora u radu Opštinskog veća inicirano je i značajno je uticano na donošenje svih važnih opštinskih odluka i kreiranje opštinskih politika.

Pre svega treba napomenuti da je angažovanje Roma u opštinskom veću direktno doprinelo radu opštinskih organa: Saveta za međunacionalne odnose, Saveta za upravljanje migracijama, Omladinskog saveta, Saveta za zapošljavanje. Romski koordinator i većnik je učestvovao u radu navedenih odbora i radnih grupa, učestvovao u izradi lokalnih akcionih planova. U okviru Omladinskog saveta je učestvovao u pripremi Lokalnog akcionog plana za mlade, u kome su Romi kao ciljna grupa prepoznati. U okviru Lokalnog saveta za zapošljavanje je učestvovao u pripremi Lokalnog akcionog plana za zapošljavanje. Zatim kao član Radne grupe za razvoj strateškog plana za socijalnu zaštitu učestvovao je u izradi Strateškog plana razvoja socijalne zaštite za period 2009-2013.godine. U svim ovim dokumentima, Romi su prepoznati kao važne ciljne grupe. Pored ovih dokumenata, Opština je izradila Lokalni akcioni plan za obrazovanje Roma (2010-2012.), koji je usvojen 2009. godine.

Ovakav primer političkog učešća Roma na lokalnom nivou pokazuje da postoji potreba za jasnom vizijom, dugoročnim pogledom i planiranjem, kao i kontinuitet u lokalnoj administraciji i kontinuirano obrazovanje i podizanje svesti kako bi se sprovele značajne promene u životu romske populacije.

Opština Nova Crnja postavila je jedan mogući modalitet političkog učešća Roma kao nacionalne manjine.

MUNICIPALITY OF NOVA CRNJA

"The Effects of Political Participation of the Roma in Municipality of Nova Crnja"

Nova Crnja is a municipality which was the first in Vojvodina to employ Coordinator for Roma issues. The municipality is involved in initiatives of the Government of AP Vojvodina which brought system changes at the local level in order to improve educational and health status of Roma, and increase level of their employment.

The municipality of Nova Crnja employed the Roma Coordinator in 2008. This person at the same time took the high position in the municipal government as member of the Municipal Council engaged for social welfare. By providing such a high position to the representative of the Roma ethnic community in local government, the municipality has opened up many opportunities for further work to improve the situation of Roma in the municipality. This is also an excellent example of good practice for other municipalities in Vojvodina, where the Roma, if hired, are often at lowest positions. Participation of Roma in the work of the municipal council has initiated and significantly influenced the adoption of all major municipal decisions and creation of municipal policy. This person took the same position during 4 years (duration of one mandate) and starting 2012 the municipality is working on finding new modus to increase participation of Roma, besides keeping the position of Roma Coordinator (no membership in the Council any more).

In the first place, the engagement of Roma councilor directly contributed to the work of municipal bodies: the Council for Interethnic Relations, the Council for the Management of Migrations, Youth Council, Council for Employment. The aforementioned committees and working groups, participated in the development of local action plans in the field for which they are established. Youth Council participated in the preparation of Local Action Plan for Youth, in which Roma as target group are recognized. Local Employment Council participated in the preparation of a local action plan for employment. Working group to develop a strategic plan for social security participated in the drafting of the Strategic Plan for Development of Social Protection for the period 2009-2013. In all these documents, the Roma are recognized as an important target group. In addition to these documents, the municipality has developed a Local Action Plan for Roma Education (2010-2012), adopted in 2009.

This example of political participation of Roma at the local level shows that there is a need for clear vision, long term view and planning, continuity in local governing and continual education and awareness raising in order to make substantial changes in lives of Roma population. The Municipality of Nova Crnja set one possible modality of political participation of Roma as national minority.

VIII OPŠTINA ODŽACI

"Planiranje porodice i reproduktivno zdravlje"

Lokalna samouprava je aktivno uključena u sprovođenje aktivnosti Dekade Roma, od samog početka 2005. godine. Opština je angažovala koordinatorku za romska pitanja 2007. godine, a kasnije u 2009. osnovala Kancelariju za romska pitanja, koja se sastoji od dva člana. Među mnogim drugim aktivnostima u vezi sa unapređenjem položaja Roma lokalna samouprava je izradila i usvojila 4 lokalna akciona plana za Rome u oblasti obrazovanja, zapošljavanja, stanovanja i zdravstva.

Ovo nije samo još jedan usvojeni dokument, jer se akcioni planovi realizuju uz podršku opštinskog budžeta, ali i drugih nacionalnih i međunarodnih fondova. Imajući u vidu učestalost faktora koji negativno utiču na zdravstveno stanje romske populacije, kao što su siromaštvo, loši uslovi života i socijalna isključenost postoji potreba da se preduzmu aktivnosti za povećanje znanja i informacija o pravima na zdravstvenu negu, zdravlje i zdravih stilova života među Romima. Kao deo unapređenja zdravlja romske populacije, koji je neodvojiv od poboljšanja uslova života u romskoj zajednici, posebna pažnja se posvećuje zdravstvenoj zaštiti dece i žena u reproduktivnom dobu.

Podaci prikupljeni iz rutinske zdravstvene statistike, naročito oni koji se odnose na zdravstvene uslove, ne sadrže informacije o etničkoj pripadnosti i zdravstvenom stanju populacije, ali se mogu pratiti rezultati ciljanih istraživanja. Opština Odžaci, u saradnji sa romskom NVO "Mladi Romi" iz Bogojeva je realizovala nekoliko projekata koji se odnose na poboljšanje zdravstvenog stanja Roma, a posebno Romkinja. Romkinje i njihovi partneri su uključeni u aktivnosti koje se odnose na planiranje porodice, reproduktivnog zdravlja i kontracepciju. Takođe, dva romska medicinska radnika su angažovana da podrže Rome u svojim naseljima, i na osnovu individualnih sastanaka uspeli su da informišu i motivišu Romkinje da ostvare svoja prava, organizovali su medicinske i ginekološke preglede. Pored toga, 20 Romkinja su informisane, motivisane i podržane da ugrade kontraceptivne spirale i na taj način da se po prvi put uključe u donošenje odluka o planiranju porodice.

Utisak je da su žene neinformisane o osnovama reproduktivnog zdravlja, kao i o seksualno prenosivim bolestima. Mnogi učesnici u edukativnim radionicama koje su organizovane su se prvi put susreli sa kontraceptivnim sredstvima kao što su kondom, spirala ... Neke od romskih žena su prvi put saznale kada su im plodni dani u menstrualnom ciklusu, iako su rađale i odlazile na ginekološke preglede. Takođe, veliko interesovanje je izazvala tema koja se odnosi na maligna oboljenja žena.

Opština Odžaci u saradnji sa romskim nevladinim organizacijama i Kancelrijom za romska pitanja nastavlja da zajedno radi na rešavanju problema sa kojima se Romi suočavaju.

"Family Planning and Reproductive Health"

Local self-government is actively involved in the Roma Decade implementing activities, from its very beginning in 2005. Regarding to that, this municipality has engaged Roma Coordinator in 2007, and later in 2009 established an Office for Roma Issues, consisting of two members. Among many other activities related to the improvement of Roma position Odžaci local selfgovernment has developed and adopted 4 local action plans for Roma, in the areas of education, employment, housing and health. Moreover, this is not just one more adopted document, those action plans are implementing with the support of the municipal budget, but also other national and international funds. Given the prevalence of factors that negatively affect the health status of the Roma population, such as poverty, poor living conditions and social exclusion there is a necessity to undertake activities to increase knowledge and information on rights to health care, health and healthy lifestyles among the Roma population. As part of improving the health of the Roma population, which is inseparable from the improvement of living conditions in the Roma community, the special attention is given to the health care of children and women of childbearing age.

Data collected from routine health statistics, especially those related to the health conditions, do not contain information on ethnicity, and health status of Roma population can only be followed from the results of targeted researches. Municipality of Odžaci, in cooperation with Roma NGO "Mladi Romi" from Bogojevo settlement has implemented several projects related to the improvement of the health status of Roma, and especially Roma women. Roma women and their partners have been introduced into the activities related to the family planning, reproductive health and contraceptives. Also, two Roma medical workers were hired to support Roma in their settlements, and by individual meetings they have managed to inform and motivate Roma women to exercise their rights, organize medical and gynecological examinations. Moreover, 20 Roma women have been supported to incorporate contraceptive coils and by this for the first time get involved in decision making on family planning. Many participants of the educational workshops for the first time met with some contraceptives, such as condom, spiral ... Some of the Roma women for the first time found out when their fertile days in the menstrual cycle are, although they bore children, and already went to the gynecological examination. Also, great interest has sparked on a topic that is related to malignant disease of women. One of the participants during the workshop, even spoke of his illness that he confronts, suggesting that the workshop was air of confidence. The impression is that women are uninformed about basic reproductive health, as well as on sexually transmitted diseases. Roma women have shown interest in this project and get involved in incorporation of contraceptive spiral, which was one of the aims of the project and one of the main project activities. The Municipality of Odžaci, in cooperation with Roma NGOs and the Roma Office, is continuing to work on solving problems that Roma face with.

"Unapređenje položaja Rominja"

Opština Pirot je uključena u sprovođenje aktivnosti u vezi sa poboljšanjem položaja Roma u oblastima koje su priznate na lokalnom i nacionalnom nivou. Ovo je prva opština u Srbiji koja je izdvojila i usvojila sredstva u budžetu za sprovođenje Dekade Roma. Iz opštinskog budžeta su finansirane razne aktivnosti, kao što su osnivanje i rad Obrazovnog centra za razvoj (RK) "Pralipe", aktivnosti u redovnom predškolskom, osnovnom i srednjem obrazovanju, neformalne obrazovne aktivnosti, razne aktivnosti u oblasti medija, kulture i tradicije, zapošljavanja, stanovanja i zdravstva. Opština je podržala i uključivanje obrazovnih asistenata i zdravstvenih medijatora.

S obzirom da je Opština Pirot među prvima izradila i usvojila sveobuhvatne akcione planove za Rome i između ostalog razvila i usvojila aktioni plan za poboljšanje ekonomskog položaja Rominja, ovo je primer i pokazatelj dobre prakse koji se može primeniti i u drugim opštinama i regionima u Srbiji. Pored ovog strateškog dokumenta, koji je nastao tokom 2012. godine opština Pirot je razvila strateški dokument koji se odnosi na osnaživanje žena u opštini Pirot za period 2012 -2017 i Akcioni plan za rodnu ravnopravnost i jednake mogućnosti za period 2011 -2013.

U saradnji sa Opštinskim timom za pomoć i podršku žrtvama nasilja, Komisija za rodnu ravnopravnost je napravila pregled situacije koja se odnosi na ranjivost žena (psihičko, fizičko i seksualno zlostavljanje). Posebno su razmatrani slučajevi gde su Romkinje pretrpele neki oblik nasilja.

Na lokalnom nivou potpisana je Protokol o saradnji u slučaju nasilja između institucija na lokalnom nivou.

Romkinje su bile uključene u sve aktivnosti, tako da su i organizovale zajedničku akciju sa drugim organizacijama žena na lokalnom nivou, sprovodeći osmomartovsku šetnju i tada su delile pisma građanima sa svim informacijama o značaju obeležavanja tog dana. Kampanja je finansirana od strane opštine Pirot. U okviru meseca aktivizma Rominja, od 8. marta-8. aprila, izrađen je dokumentarni film "Drugačiji" koji je tada promovisan zajedno sa dodelom zahvalnica. Romkinje iz Pirota su članice romske nacionalne mreže žena. U okviru Mreže su uključene u Radnu grupu za kulturu i informisanje prilikom izrade Nacionalne strategije za poboljšanje položaja Roma 2009-2015.

Opština Pirot je dobila pohvalnicu od republičkog Odbora za ravnopravnost polova na predlog Mreže Rominja za izradu Strategije za unapređivanje položaja Rominja.

MUNICIPALITY OF PIROT

"Improvement the position of Roma women"

Municipality of Pirot is working for many years to improve the position of Roma in the areas that are recognized at both local and national level. This is the first municipality in Serbia, which has allocated funds in the budget for the implementation of Roma Decade. From the municipal budget various activities are funding, such as the Educational Development Center (ROC) "Pralipe", activities in the regular preschool, primary and secondary education, informal educational various activities, activities in the field of media, culture and tradition, employment, housing, health. The municipality supported the involvement of educational assistants and health mediators.

Since the municipality of Pirot was among the first that developed a comprehensive action plans for Roma, and among others, developed and adopted a local action plan for improving the economic position of Roma women, we consider this example as an indicator of good practice that can be applied and multiplied in other municipalities and regions in Serbia.

In addition to this strategic document, which was created during this year, the municipality of Pirot has developed a strategic document that relates to the empowerment of women in the municipality of Pirot for the period 2012 -2017 and Action Plan for gender equality and equal opportunities for the period 2011 -2013. In cooperation with the Municipal Team for help and support to victims of violence, the Commission for Gender Equality has done a review of the situation related to the vulnerability of women (psychological, physical and sexual abuse). The Roma women who survived any of these forms of violence are of special consideration. The Protocol on cooperation in the situation of violence was signed between the institutions at the local level.

The Roma women had a joint action with other women's organizations at the local level. They have organized 8th March walk and at that time they distributed letters to citizens that contain all the information about the importance of celebrating that day. The campaign was funded by the municipality of Pirot. Within the month of the Roma women's activism, from 8 March-8 April, the documentary film "Different" was promoted and congratulations were distributed. Roma women from Pirot are members of the Roma national women's network. Within the Network they were involved in the Working Group of Culture and Information in drafting the National Strategy for the Improvement of the Position of Roma 2009-2015.

At the initiative of the Roma Women's Network, the Municipality of Pirot has been awarded by Republic Committee for Gender Equality, for the development of the Strategy for the Improvement of the position of Roma Women.

X OPŠTINA PROKUPLJE

"Opštinski Centar za besplatnu pravnu pomoć za Rome"

Relativno veliki broj romskih porodica u Prokuplju su uključene u program socijalne pomoći - 792 porodica sa ukupno 2150 članova. Romi se oslanjaju na nekoliko strateških dokumenata, nacionalnih i lokalnih, priznajući mogućnost za budući prosperitet svojih zajednica.

U Prokuplju postoji više registrovanih romskih organizacija civilnog društva, a postoji i Kancelarija Nacionalnog saveta romske nacionalne manjine koja aktivno doprinosi unapređenju položaja Roma. Radno mesto romskog koordinatora je takođe uvedeno u okviru lokalne samouprave, a osnovan je i Savet za međunalacionalne odnose.

U poslednjih nekoliko godina, romske nevladine organizacije u saradnji sa lokalnom samoupravom su realizovale nekoliko projekata finansiranih od strane domaćih, ali i međunarodnih organizacija, kao što su: UNDP, PROGRESS, CARE, UNICEF, DILS programa, itd. Jedan od tih projekata je doprineo razvoju i usvajaju lokalnih akcionalih planova za Rome.

Kao jedan od primera dobre prakse Opština Prokuplje je uspostavila Opštinski Centar za besplatnu pravnu pomoć, u skladu sa reformama javne uprave koje se odvijaju na svim nivoima, a sve u cilju efikasnijeg rešavanja problema i potreba građana.

Implementacija ovog projekta obezbedila je efikasnije i bolje usluge građanima, čime se njihov pristup pravima mnogo olakšao.

1. *Opštinski Centar za pravnu pomoć funkcioniše kao deo opštinske uprave.*
2. *Deset opštinskih službenika koji rade u lokalnim kancelarijama i zajednici centara za pravnu pomoć su obučeni za efikasno i ljubazno pružanje usluga*
3. *Informacije o radu opštinskog Centra za pravnu pomoć je na raspolaganju građanima kroz štampanje i distribuciju 2000 "Vodiča za upravne postupke državnih organa i organa lokalne samouprave" i 10.000 pamfleta kao i distribuciju kvartalnog biltena u 4000 primeraka*
4. *Tehnički kapaciteti opštinske uprave je uvećan za nabavku nove i savremene opreme.*

Po realizaciji ovog projekta građania se pružaju efikasnije i bolje usluge koje olakšavaju život građana, ali je i rad zaposlenih u opštinskim odeljenjima olakan. Istovremeno stanovništvo ima mnogo više informacija o velikom broju različitih usluga, a bolje su upućeni u procedure i birokratski način rešavanja problema. Ovi rezultati su postignuti u cilju poboljšanja rada opštine Prokuplje, edukovani su zaposleni u opštinskoj administraciji, ali su i građani svesniji svojih prava i mogućnosti.

MUNICIPALITY OF PROKUPLJE

"Municipal Centre for Free Legal Aid Services for Roma"

The relatively large number of Roma families in Prokuplje are included in the program of social assistance - 792 families with a total of 2150 members.

The democratization process creates the conditions for a more responsible attitude of the Government towards human rights of its citizens. Roma rely on several policy documents, national and local, recognizing the possibility for the future prosperity of their communities. There are several registered Roma CSOs, but the largest and best organized two are located in the City. Moreover, there is an Office of the National Council of the Roma national minority that actively contributes to the improvement of the position of Roma. Roma coordinators' position is also introduced into the local self-government, and on the basis of the Law on Local Self-Government, the Council for Interethnic Relations established.

In last few years, Roma NGOs in cooperation with local self-government have implemented several projects, funded by national but also international organizations, such as: UNDP, PROGRESS, CARE, UNICEF, DILS Program, etc. One of those projects was contributing to the development and adoption of the Local action plans for Roma, which is drafted and submitted for the adoption to the Municipal Assembly.

Also, Prokuplje has established Municipal Free Legal Assistance Centre, in accordance with public administration reforms that are taking place at all levels, all in order to effectively solve problems, demands and desires of citizens. Implementation of this project provided more efficient and better services to citizens, which would make their lives much easier.

1. *The municipal Center for Legal Assistance is functioning as part of the Municipal Administration.* **2.** *Ten municipal employees who work in local offices and community centers for legal aid are trained for efficient and friendly service providing.* **3.** *Information on the work of the Municipal Center for Legal Aid is available to citizens by printing and distributing 2000 "Guide to the administrative actions of state bodies and local self-government" and 10,000 pamphlets as well as distributing the quarterly Bulletin in 4000 copies.* **4.** *Technical capacity of municipal government is increased by the procurement of new and modern equipment.*

By the Implementation of this project more efficient and better services are provided to citizens, which facilitate the life of the citizens and employees and the work of municipal departments made easier. At the same time, the population is better informed about many local administration services, procedures and bureaucratic way of resolving issues.

Those results were achieved in order to improve the work of the municipality of Prokuplje, educate staff of the municipal administration, but also for citizens to be aware of their rights and opportunities, and thus came up with increasing basic requirements of information and documents.

"Aktivne mere zapošljavanja"

Skupština Autonomne Pokrajine Vojvodine je na sednici održanoj 26. maja 2006. godine donela Odluku o osnivanju Kancelarije za inkluziju Roma u cilju unapređenja položaja Roma u oblasti obrazovanja, zapošljavanja, zdravlja, stanovanja i drugih prava za stvaranje preduslova za uključivanje Roma u sve oblasti društvenog, javnog i političkog života u Vojvodini.

Kancelarija za inkluziju Roma je institucija koja je jedinstvena u regionu. Ne postoji nijedna institucija u Srbiji ili u jugoistočnoj Evropi, koja ima aktivnosti ili sredstva poput Kancelarije za inkluziju Roma. Kancelarija radi kao deo pokrajinskih institucija, i ima za cilj da poboljša socijalni status Roma na ovom prostoru.

Tokom proteklih šest godina, Kancelarija za inkluziju Roma je bila aktivna u sprovođenju niza aktivnosti, samostalno ili u saradnji sa Savetom za integraciju Roma u Autonomnoj Pokrajini Vojvodini, pokrajinskim sekretarijatima, lokalnim zajednicama i nevladinim organizacijama.

Kancelarija za inkluziju Roma je obezbedila stručnu pomoć za dobitjanje subvencija za samozapošljavanje nezaposlenih lica romske nacionalnosti koje je pokrenuo Pokrajinski sekretariat za rad, zapošljavanje i ravnopravnost polova, u vidu izrade biznis planova i obezbeđivanja sredstava za pokrivanje troškova knjigovodstvenih usluga za odobrene projekte, u periodu od 6 meseci. Do sada je uz pomoć subvencija osnovano ukupno 50 preduzeća u vlasništvu ljudi romske nacionalnosti.

Kancelarija za inkluziju Roma je preuzeila aktivnu ulogu u sprovođenju mera afirmativne akcije u oblasti zapošljavanja i očuvanju postojećih poslova u AP Vojvodini u 2009. godini.

Kao rezultat aktivnosti u ovom programu, u konkurenciji za organizaciju i sprovođenje javnih radova, 30 projekata je odobreno u 19 opština, u vezi sa rehabilitacijom romskih naselja ili zapošljavanjem Roma. Ukupno 259 ljudi je angažovano. Sredstva u iznosu od 40.000.000,00 dinara su obezbeđena za ove namene.

Kao posebnu aktivnost, Kancelarija za inkluziju Roma realizuje projekat pod nazivom "**Unapređenje zapošljavanja Roma u Autonomnoj Pokrajini Vojvodini**". Projekat je finansiran od strane Delegacije Evropske Unije. Ukupan iznos projekta je 237.739,00 EUR. Cilj projekta je da se poboljša zapošljavanje Roma u 20 opština na teritoriji AP Vojvodine. Projekat je počeo u februaru 2011. godine, sa 24 meseci trajanja.

Projekat ima dve glavne aktivnosti:

- 1.** Podrška Romima da konkurišu na poziv Pokrajinskog sekretarijata za rad, zapošljavanje i ravnopravnost polova za podnošenje predloga o posebnim subvencijama za samozapošljavanje kroz mentorstvo i tehničku pomoć;
- 2.** Poboljšanje zapošljavanja Roma na tržištu rada u 20 opština u AP Vojvodini kroz stručne obuke za 150 lica.

Kancelarija za inkluziju Roma dodelila je 50 subvencija za Rome u periodu 2006-2009.

Pružena je podrška u pripremi biznis planova Nacionalne službe za zapošljavanje kao i besplatne knjigovodstvene usluge, na period od 6 meseci. Kancelarija je objavila dva poziva za podnošenje predloga, jedan u septembru 2011. godine, a drugi u aprilu 2012. Deset firmi je otvoreno u decembru 2011. i pružena je pomoć od 200.000,00 dinara u vidu subvencija, mentorstva i tehničke pomoći, kao i poslovnih paketa. Jedna firma je osnovana od strane tri lica, četiri firme su osnovala dva i pet firmi od strane jedne osobe, tako da je 16 subvencija dodeljeno, u ukupnom iznosu od 3.200.000,00 dinara.

Od 16 korisnika, njih 5 su žene (31,25%).

Deset novih firmi su u procesu registracije i potpisivanja ugovora. Jedanaest lica će dobiti subvencije u ukupnom iznosu od 2.200.000,00 dinara u narednom periodu.

ROMA INCLUSION OFFICE IN AP VOJVODINA

"Active employment measures"

The Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, at the session held on 26 May 2006, passed the Decision on establishing the Roma Inclusion Office for the purpose of improving the status of Roma in the field of education, employment, health care, housing, human and other rights creating the prerequisites for the inclusion of Roma in all spheres of the social, public and political life in the Vojvodina.

The Roma Inclusion Office is an institution that is unique in the region. There is no institution in Serbia or in the South-East region of Europe, that has the activities or the funds like the Roma Inclusion Office. The Office works in the Province as an institution that has the aim to improve the social status of Roma people on this territory. During the past six years that the Roma Inclusion Office is active, it implemented a number of activities, independently or in co-operation with the Council for Roma Integration in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, provincial secretariats, local communities and non-governmental organizations.

The Roma Inclusion Office has provided professional assistance to participants in the subsidy competition for self-employment of the unemployed people of Roma nationality initiated by the Provincial Secretariat for Labour, Employment and Gender Equality, in terms of drafting the business plans and providing the funds to cover the costs of the book-keeping services for the approved projects, during the period of 6 months. Until present, the total of 50 companies, owned by people of Roma nationality, have been established through these competitions.

The Roma Inclusion Office has taken an active part in the enforcement of affirmative action measures in the field of employment by presenting the Job Preservation Programme in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina in 2009. This programme was adopted by the Executive Council of the APV at its 49th session held on 15 April 2009, while the Roma Inclusion Office has taken an active part in presenting the programme in open forum organized in cooperation with local self-governments, for the purpose of introducing the Roma people with the conditions and procedure applied in five competitions in the frame of the Programme, in 30 municipalities in APV.

As a result of the Office's activities in this Programme, in the Competition for organization and implementation of public works, 30 projects were approved in 19 municipalities, concerning the rehabilitation of Roma settlements or employment of Roma. The total of 259 people of Roma were engaged. The funds in the amount of 40.000.000,00 RSD were provided for these purposes.

The Roma Inclusion Office is implementing the project under the name "***Improving Employment of Roma in Autonomous Province of Vojvodina***". The project is financed by the Delegation of the European Union. The total amount of the project is 237.739,00 Eur.

The aim of the project is to improve the employability and employment of Roma people in 20 municipalities on the territory of AP Vojvodina. These municipalities are Novi Sad, Beočin, Indija, Pančevo, Kovin, Bela Crkva, Zrenjanin, Žitište, Žabalj, Srbobran, Bečej, Kikinda, Senta, Novi Kneževac, Ruma, Pećinci, Sombor, Apatin, Kula and Odžaci.

The project started on February 2011, with 24 month of duration. The Project has two main activities:

1. Support to the Roma for the Provincial Secretariat for Labour, Employment and Gender Equality's Call for Proposals on special subsidies for self-employment through mentorship and technical assistance;
2. Improved employability of the Roma in the labour market in 20 municipalities of AP Vojvodina through vocational trainings for 150 persons.

The Roma Inclusion Office awarded 50 subsidies for the Roma in the period of 2006-2009. They received support in preparation of the business plans for the National Employment Service and were supported in book-keeping services provision, by the period of 6 months.

The Roma Inclusion Office announced two Calls for Proposals, one in September 2011, and one in April 2012. Ten firms were opened in December and got 200.000,00 RSD by subsidies, mentorship and technical assistance and business packages. One firm was founded by three persons, four firms by two and five firms by one person, so it is 16 subsidies that have been assigned, by the total amount of 3.200.000, 00 RSD. From the 16 users, 5 of them are women (31,25%). Ten new firms are in the process of registration and contract assignment. Eleven persons will get the subventions, in the total amount of 2.200.000,00 RSD

"Nedelja romske kulture"

U Smederevu prema procenama civilnog sektora živi oko 10.000 Roma. Povodom Svetskog dana kulturne različitosti, partneri DILS / REF u okviru projekta "Inkluzivno obrazovanje Roma", odredili su nedelju od 16. do 22. maja ove godine, za Nedelju romske kulture. U okviru obeležavanja Nedelje u četiri osnovne škole „Jovan Jovanović Zmaj“, „Dimitrije Davidović“, „Jovan Cvijić, B. Radičević-Lugavčina“, organizovani su programi, posvećeni kulturnom identitetu Roma. Tom prilikom, Narodna biblioteka Smederevo je promovisala Srpsko-romski Rečnik i organizovala predavanje o istoriji, kulturi i jeziku romske književnosti. Tokom Nedelje romske kulture povodom Svetskog dana za kulturnu raznolikost Rečnik srpsko-romskog jezika sa gramatikom i pravopisom, kao i savetnikom je promovisan, a napisao ga je Bajram Haliti. Izdavač Srpskog-romskog Rečnika je novosadski "Prometej". Knjiga ima 765 strana i 50.000 reči. Ono što ovaj rečnik razlikuje od drugih nije samo broj reči i izraza, nego i pravopisnih saveta. Prema autorima, cilj ove knjige je da pruži zajednički osnov za razvijanje nastavnih planova i smernica za obrazovne programe, udžbenike i druge nastavne materijale i ispitivanja u školskim sistemima širom Srbije. Što se tiče aktivnosti vezanih za promociju romske kulture, još jedan projekat je realizovan u Smederevu. Naime, u poslednjih nekoliko godina igra se predstava pod nazivom "BRAT", kao vid saradnje i kooprodukcije „Patos pozorišta“ iz Smedereva i „Koreja pozorišta“ iz Leca, Italije, uz podršku Ministarstva kulture Republike Srbije. Predstava oslikava situaciju Roma u društvu (ne samo naše, nego gledajući društva u globalnom smislu) naspram "ne-Roma", njihov način borbe protiv takvog položaja, i nepažnje o položaju u kome se nalaze Romi. Ova saradnja je počela 2007, a prošla je kroz nekoliko različitih faza: dramskih radionica sa mladim glumcima pozorišta PATOS iz Smedereva i mladi Romi, stvarajući nastupe "Prosjačke opere" (uzet uzorak teksta iz istoimene drame Džona Gaja). Takođe je napravljen i dokumentarni film o iskustvima tokom realizacije i igranja predstave. Rad kulturnih institucija i podrška lokalne samouprave je primer dobre prakse, jer uspešno pruža edukativnu podršku Romima i očuvanju i promociji romske kulture. Grad sa visokim procentom romske populacije uspešno odgovara na izazove iz nekoliko prioritetnih oblasti. Neki od stambenih problema su rešeni realizacijom projekata, a neki su u fazi planiranja, u skladu sa lokalnim planovima akcije. Do angažovanja koordinatora za romska pitanja mnogi problemi sa kojima se Romi suočavaju su bili nevidljivi, a sada su lokalni akteri počeli njihovo rešavanje.

CITY OF SMEDEREVO

"Week of the Roma Culture"

In Smederevo it is estimated that there are nearly 10,000 Roma people. On the occasion of World Day of Cultural Diversity, Partners DILS/REF within the project, "Inclusive education of Roma", declared the week of 16 to 22 May this year, as the Week of the Roma culture. Within that Week in four elementary schools: "Jovan Jovanovic Zmaj", "Dimitrije Davidovic", "Jovan Cvijic", "B. Radičević-Lugavčina", programs were organized and dedicated to the cultural identity of Roma.

The National Library of Smederevo has promoted Serbian-Roma Dictionary and organized lecture on the history, culture, language and Roma literature. During the Week of the Roma culture on the occasion of World Day for Cultural Diversity Dictionary on Serbian-Roma language with grammar and spelling adviser was promoted, written by Mr Bajram Haliti. Publisher of the Serbian-Roman Dictionary was Novi Sad's "Prometej". The book has 765 pages and 50,000 words. What makes this dictionary different from others is not only the number of words and phrases, but it has spell advisor. According to the authors, the aim of this book is to provide a common basis for developing curricula and guidelines for educational programs, textbooks and other teaching materials and examinations in school systems throughout Serbia.

This is another in a series of promotion of Roma cultural heritage, which points to the equality and humanity in that they fit all the movements and forms of human culture. As regards to the activities related to the promotion of the Roma culture, one more project was implemented in Smederevo. Namely, for several years a play named "BRAT - brother" is playing, as a cooperation and coproduction of the PATOS theater from Smederevo and KOREJA Theater from Leca, Italy, with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia. The play depicts the situation of Roma in society (not just ours, but looking at society in a global sense) than "non-Roma" against the Roma, their way of fighting against such a position, and careless about our view of the situation, which by their in/action consciously bury an entire culture. This collaboration began in 2007 and has gone through several different stages: drama workshops with young actors theater PATOS from Smederevo and young Roma, creating performances "Prosjacka opera" (taken a sample text eponymous drama by John Gaia, but relied heavily on the Opera Threepenny B. Brecht), making a documentary about the experience. The work of cultural institutions and the support of local self-government is an example of good practice, because it successfully provides educational support to Roma and the support to perservance of the Roma culture and its promotion as well.

The City with high percentage of Roma population is successfully answering the challenges of several priority areas. Some of the housing problems were solved during the implemented projects, and some are in planning phase, according to the local action plans. By the engagement of the Roma Coordinator many of the problems Roma are facing with became noire visible and local stakeholders started solving them.

"Lokalni akcioni plan za obrazovanje Roma"

Grad Sombor je prva lokalna samouprava na teritoriji Srbije koja je sistematizovala poziciju koordinatora za romska pitanja. Opis posla romskog koordinatora je, između ostalog, primena međunarodnog programa "Dekada Roma 2005-2015", na lokalnom nivou u oblasti obrazovanja, zapošljavanja, stanovanja i zdravstva, u saradnji sa lokalnim romskim nevladinim organizacijama, saradnji sa svim lokalnim institucijama, kao i poboljšanje životnog standarda Roma u lokalnoj zajednici. Pored toga, vodi računa o sprovođenju i realizaciji lokalnih akcionih planova.

Skupština grada Sombora je donela Lokalni akcioni plan za unapređenje obrazovanja Roma u oktobru 2006. godine, za period do 2011., koji je kasnije produžen do 2015. Aktivnosti su finansirane od 2007., kada je posebna budžetska linija je otvorena u budžetu grada Sombora za realizaciju LAP. Tročlana komisija imenovana je za realizaciju LAP za Rome, a Odeljenje za socijalna pitanja i Odeljenje za finansije grada Sombora će kontrolisati sredstva koja se troše.

Sledeće aktivnosti se sprovode u okviru LAP:

- *Primena mera afirmativne akcije upisa učenika u srednje škole i fakultete*
- *Finansiranje smeštaja, hrane i prevoza za učenike koji pohađaju svoje srednje škole u drugoj opštini (u studentskim domovima)*
- *Finansiranje 100% mesečnih propusnica za studente koji putuju*
- *Obezbeđivanje materijala za pripremni predškolski program (pravopis knjige, igračke)*
- *Obezbeđivanje materijala za dopunske nastave za studente sa niskim ocenama*
- *Konkurs za projekte romskih nevladinih organizacija (ovo je način na koji se sprovode i druge mere iz LAP, kao što su: nabavka opreme za studente, opremanje učionice za pripremnu predškolsku grupu, kupovina udžbenika, radionice, seminari).*

Na kraju 2007. godine, prva procena rezultata LAP je bila urađena, tako da su još tada prvi pozitivni rezultati postignuti: posle samo godinu implementacije i realizacije mera definisanih Lokalnim akcionim planom, 20 učenika je upisano u srednje škole, u odnosu na 10 u 2006. godini.

Kroz rad opštinskih vlasti i koordinatora za romska pitanja do sada je u srednje škole upisano 158 učenika preko afirmativnih mera sa teritorije Grada Sombora u 2006. Do 2011. godine, upisano je devet studenata na fakultete. Godine 2008., u saradnji sa Nacionalnom službom za zapošljavanje i poznatim poslodavcima, stručne obuke održane su za 10 zavarivača i pet bravara, nakon čega je njih 10 zaposleno kod poznatog poslodavca.

Opština je uspostavila saradnju između brodogradilišta u Bačkom Monoštoru i Tehničke škole u Apatinu tako što se preko mera afirmative akcije učenici upisuju u srednju školu. Grad Sombor im plaća dom ili mesečne karte za put u Apatin, a poslodavci će ih nakon završetka škole zaposliti.

CITY OF SOMBOR

"Local action plan for Roma Education"

The City of Sombor is the first local self-government on the territory of Serbia which systematized the position of a Roma coordinator. Job description of the Roma Coordinators position is, among others, implementation of an international program "Decade of Roma 2005-2015" on the local level in the areas of education, employment, housing and health; cooperation with local Roma non-governmental organizations; cooperation with all local institutions, as well as the improvement of the living standard of Roma in the local community. Additionally, they take care of the implementation and realization of Local Action Plans.

The Assembly of the municipality of Sombor has passed the Local Action Plan for the Improvement of the Education of Roma in October 2006 for the period to 2011, which was subsequently extended to 2015. The activities have been financed since 2007, when a special budget line was opened in the budget of the city of Sombor for the implementation of LAP. A three-member Commission was appointed for the implementation of LAP for Roma, while the Department of Social Affairs and Department of Finances of the city of Sombor will control the funds spent.

The following activities are conducted within LAP:

- *The application of measures of affirmative action in the enrollment of students in high schools and faculties*
- *Financing of accommodation, food, transport and enrollment fees for students who attend their high schools in another municipality (in student dormitories)*
- *Financing of 100% monthly passes for students commuters*
- *Provision of materials for preparatory pre-school class (spelling books, toys)*
- *Provision of materials for additional classes for students with low grades*
- *Contest for projects of Roma NGO (this is the way other measures are conducted from LAP, such as: procurement of equipment for students, equipping classrooms for preparatory pre-school group, purchase of textbooks, workshops, seminars...)*

At the end of 2007, the first assessment of the existent state was undertaken since the realization of the Local Action Plan, so the first positive results were achieved: after only one year of implementation and realization of measures defined by the Local Action Plan, 20 students were enrolled in high schools, compared to 10 in 2006. A project of Functional Elementary Education of Adult Roma was realized, which decreased the percentage of Roma who did not have finished elementary school.

Through the Municipal and the Coordinator's assistance 158 students enrolled in secondary schools through affirmative measures from the territory of Sombor in 2006. By 2011 9 students enrolled in colleges. In 2008 with the cooperation of the National Employment Service and known employer, vocational trainings were held for 10 welders and 5 locksmiths, of which 10 welders were employed by the known employer. The municipality has established cooperation between the shipyard in Backi Monostor and Technical School in Apatin in the way that through affirmative action measures, students enroll in secondary school, and the municipality of Sombor pays them the dormitory or the monthly passes for students who travel to Apatin, and the will employ them after graduation. The actions of the LAP reduced the number of adults who have not completed primary school. According to estimates, there are now less than 5%.

XIV OPŠTINA SURČIN

„Doprinos razvoju interkulturalne zajednice u Surčinu“

Opština Surčin je opština u kojoj lokalna samouprava posebnu pažnju posvećuje socijalno isključenim grupama stanovništva, posebno Romima, što se može videti i iz strateških dokumenata opštine ali, još važnije, rezultata konkretnih aktivnosti u oblasti inkluzije Roma. Opština je gotovo bez ikakve spoljne finansijske pomoći u prethodnih nekoliko godina realizovala izuzetno značajan niz projekata i aktivnosti u različitim područjima društvenog života kako bi se položaj Roma unapredio. Predsednik opštine ima izuzetnu saradnju sa romskom nevladinim organizacijama na teritoriji opštine. Za većinu ovih organizacija karakteristično je da im nedostaju finansijska sredstva i da im je potrebno podrška u razvijanju ljudskih resursa. Opština je Strategijom lokalnog održivog razvoja za period 2012-2021. upravo predvidela podršku njihovom razvijanju kroz umrežavanje i partnerstvo sa javnim i privatnim sektorom. Pored rada na konkretnim problemima u ovoj opštini je načinjen značajan korak u razvijanju političke participacije Roma. U skupštini opštine dva odbornika su pripadnici romske nacionalnosti. Predsednik opštine periodično održava zborove građana na kojima u direktnom kontaktu sa romskim građanima ispituje potrebe i konsultuje ih o rešenjima problema.

Opština Surčin je u radu na poboljšanju položaja Roma angažovana i u oblastima koje nisu prioritetne, pokazujući time izuzetnu senzibilisanost i za različitosti unutar ove nacionalne zajednice. Romsku populaciju u Surčinu, njih oko 2.500, čine starosedeoci koji su pravoslavne hrišćanske vere, interni raseljeni pripadnici muslimanske vere sa Kosova i juga Srbije, kao i pravoslavni Hrišćani koji su pre oko 30 godina došli preko reke Save iz trougla gradova Obrenovac, Valjevo, Šabac. Svaka podgrupa unutar ove populacije ima sopstvenu istoriju, tradicionalne, kulturne, verske i druge običaje. Opština Surčin je ove različitosti uvažila na dva načina: time što je objedinila njihove zajedničke interese i potrebe kroz izgradnju Društveno kulturnog Romskog centra, a istovremeno, svakoj podzajednici/podgrupi omogućila da zadovoljava svoje specifične verske i kulturne potrebe.

Za potrebe Društveno kulturnog Romskog centra opština je izgradila objekat u vrednosti od 30.000 EUR koji se koristi kao prostor za dopunsko školovanje i edukaciju Roma i njihove društvene aktivnosti. Sastoji se od zgrade sa kancelarijom, kuhinjom, sanitarnim čvorom i salom za okupljanje. U sali radi amatersko folklorno društvo, karate sekacija, kojima je opština kupila opremu, održavaju se javne tribine, kursevi i radionice. U naselju Boljevci izgrađena je stilska kuća-brvnara u kojoj se takođe odvija školska nastava i radi likovna sekacija za decu. U Romskom centru su zaposlene 2 osobe romske nacionalnosti.

Pored Društveno kulturnog Romskog centra, izgrađena je Molitvena kuća za muslimanske Rome koji su veru do tada ispovedali okupljajući se krišom u privatnim kućama. Izgrađena je i odgovarajuće opremljena Gasulana, u okviru zajedničkog mesnog groblja, objekat za pripremu pokojnika za sahranu i obred, ranije obavljan na otvorenom dvorištu u nehigijenskim uslovima.

MUNICIPALITY OF SURČIN

"Contribution to the development of intercultural community in Surčin"

Surčin Municipality is a municipality in which the local government pays special attention to the socially excluded population groups, particularly Roma, as can be seen from the strategic documents of the municipality but, more importantly, the results of specific activities in the field of Roma Inclusion. Almost without any external financial assistance, the municipality in recent years has implemented a number of very important projects and activities in various areas of social life in order to improve the position of Roma. The Mayor has excellent cooperation with Roma CSOs in the municipality. Most of these organizations are characterized as they lack financial resources and support needed for development of human resources. The municipality's Local Sustainable Development Strategy for the period 2012-2021 envisages support to their development through networking and partnership with public and private sectors. Besides working on specific problems local self-government has made a significant step in developing political participation of Roma. Two municipal Assembly members are Roma. Mayor periodically held meetings with the Roma people consulting them about the requirements and solutions of the community problems.

Surčin Municipality is actively involved in the improvement of the situation of Roma within non-priority areas, also, demonstrating the exceptional sensibility and diversity within the national community. The Roma population in Surčin, about 2,500, consists of 300 natives, Orthodox Christian Church members, 1.500 Muslims (10% of them are internally displaced Kosovo&Metohija), and 200 Orthodox Christians who came across the Sava River are from triangle of towns Obrenovac, Valjevo, Sabac about 30 years ago.

Each sub group within this population has its own history, tradition, culture, religious and other customs. The municipality Surčin acknowledges their diversity in two ways: by gathering together their common interests and needs in building the Social and Cultural Roma Centre, and at the same time by providing each sub group in Roma population with possibility to meet their specific religious and cultural needs.

For the purposes of Social and Cultural Centre of the Roma, municipality has built a facility in the amount of 30,000 EUR, which is used as a space for additional training and education of Roma and their social activities. It consists of buildings with office, kitchen, toilet facilities and a hall for gatherings. In the hall for amateur folklore group, karate section, where the municipality has bought the equipment, held public forums, courses and workshops. In Boljevci log cabin-style house was built where school classes and children's art section takes place. In the Roma Center 2 Roma persons are employed.

A Prayer House is built for the Muslim Roma, who were practicing their religion in secret, in their private houses, until then. Municipality has built and appropriately equipped premises that Roma called "Gasulana", within the common Municipality cemetery, facility for preparing the deceased for burial ritual, previously performed in the open courtyard in unsanitary conditions.

„Kancelarija za inkluziju Roma u opštini Žabalj“

Opština Žabalj donela je Odluku o osnivanju Kancelarije za inkluziju Roma opštine Žabalj u martu 2009. godine (objavljen u Službenom listu opštine Žabalj 06/2009). Cilj Kancelarije je da se poboljša položaj Roma u obrazovanju, zapošljavanju, zdravlju, stanovanju, ljudskim pravima i drugim pravima, kao i stvaranje uslova za uključivanje Roma u sve oblasti društvenog, javnog i političkog života u opštini Žabalj. Osnivač kancelarije je Skupština opštine Žabalj. Sredstva za rad Kancelarije obezbeđuju se iz budžeta Opštine Žabalj.

Kancelarija deluje kao institucija, u skladu sa Zakonom o javnim službama. U opštinama u Republici Srbiji pitanje romskih koordinatora nije regulisano na ovaj način. Opština Žabalj je jedina opština u Republici Srbiji, koja je rešila pitanje koordinatora za romska pitanja na ovaj način. Opština je osnovala instituciju koja ima sredstva za rešavanje različitih pitanja koja su od značaja za integraciju Roma kao ravnopravnih članova u društvu. Ustanova je stabilnija sa sredstvima održivosti. Promena lokalnih vlasti će imati mnogo više problema da ugasi Kancelarija za inkluziju Roma, nego da ugasi radnu poziciju koordinatora. Kancelarija radi na poboljšanju položaja Roma u četiri glavne oblasti Dekade Roma: u obrazovanju, stanovanju, zdravstvu i zapošljavanju.

Od 2009. godine do 2012. godine Kancelarija ostvaruje sledeće aktivnosti:
Učenici srednjih škola i fakulteta upisuju se kroz afirmativne mere. Kancelarija prikuplja podatke i prosleđuje ih dalje. 62 romske dece upisano je u srednje škole uz pomoć Kancelarije. Opština pruža ovim učenicima podršku u obezbeđivanju mesečnih karata za prevoz.

Takođe, radno mesto pedagoškog asistenta je uvedeno u jednoj osnovnoj školi u Čurugu iz lokalnu pomoć Kancelarije.

Kancelarija je aktivna i u realizaciji DILS projekta "Druga šansa", čiji je cilj edukacija Roma.

Kada je u pitanju zapošljavanje, šest firmi je dobilo u 2011. i godini 2012. subvencije za samozapošljavanje u okviru poziva Pokrajinskog sekretarijata za rad, zapošljavanje i ravnopravnost polova i Kancelarije za inkluziju Roma u APV. Kancelarija za inkluziju Roma iz Žablja lobirala je za ove firme i podržala ih. Pored toga, poljoprivredna zadruga je osnovana na inicijativu Kancelarije za inkluziju Roma u Žablju, gde je za potrebe staklenika kupljen materijal (biljke, seme i izgradnja plastenika), koji je dobio pet zlatnih medalja za kvalitet. Kancelarija je postigla uspeh i time što je uvela rad zdravstvenih medijatorki (program koji finasnira Ministarstvo zdravlja) i aktivna je u mnogim drugim oblastima zdravstvene zaštite.

Iz oblasti stanovanja i unapređenja kvaliteta života Roma, Opština dodeljuje sredstva za izgradnju i modernizaciju puteva u romskim naseljima na teritoriji opštine Žabalj. U saradnji sa Ekumenskom humanitarnom organizacijom izgrađeno je 100 kupatila u Čurugu, a opština je izdvojila 25 priključaka za snabdevanje gradskom vodom. Pored Čuruga, i u lokalnoj mesnoj zajednici Đurđevo izgrađeno je 75 kupatila za 75 porodica romske nacionalnosti.

Pre osnivanja Kancelarije za inkluziju Roma u Žablju, bilo je nekoliko srednjoškolaca Roma, a studenata još manje. Danas ima oko 60 romskih srednjoškolaca i 5 studenata u opštini Žabalj. Sve ovo je rezultat podrške opštine i aktivnosti Kancelarije za inkluziju Roma iz Žablja. Za 62 učenika opština plaća mesečnu kartu za javni prevoz. Pre osnivanja Kancelarije, ovo nije postojalo. Uključivanje Roma kroz obrazovanje je mnogo vidljivije od osnivanja Kancelarije, a njena najveća delatnost jekroz ovaj segment Dekade Roma.

Članovi Kancelarije odlaze na teren da obaveste svako dete u svakom naselju o njihovim pravima kao romskih studenata: upisu, stipendijama, domovima i posebnim programima za srednje škole i studenate, završavanje osnovne škole za odrasle i prekvalifikaciju i kvalifikacije kroz pokrajinske i Nacionalnu službu za zapošljavanje. Opština daje najugroženijem studentima jednokratnu pomoć u cilju podrške završavanja osnovne ili srednje škole. Za sve aktivnosti se vrši procena Kancelarije.

MUNICIPALITY OF ŽABALJ

"Roma Inclusion Office in Municipality of Žabalj"

The Municipality of Žabalj adopted decision on the Establishment of the Office for Roma Inclusion of Žabalj Municipality in March 2009 (published in the Official Journal of the municipality Žabalj 06/2009). The goal of the Office is to improve the situation of Roma in education, employment, health, housing, human rights and other rights, as well as creating conditions for the inclusion of Roma in all spheres of social, public and political life in the municipality Žabalj. The founder of the Office is the Municipal Assembly of Žabalj. The funds for the Office are provided by the municipal budget Žabalj. The Office operates as an institution, in accordance with the law on public services. In the municipalities of the Republic of Serbia the question of the RCs is not regulated in this way. The municipality of Žabalj is the only municipality in the Republic of Serbia which resolved the question of the coordinators for Roma issues in this way. The municipality founded an institution that has funds for solving different issues that are important for the integration of Roma people as equal members in the society. An institution is more stable in means of sustainability. A changed local government would have much more problems to shut down the Roma Inclusion Office, than it would have to shut down the working position of a coordinator.

The Office works on improving the situation of Roma in the four main areas of the Decade of Roma: in education, housing, health and employment.

From 2009 to 2012 the Office accomplished the following activities:

High school and university students are enrolling on high schools and faculties through the affirmative measures. The Office collects data and forwards it further. 62 children enrolled on high schools with the help of the Office. The municipality provides these students with monthly passes for public transportation. The pedagogical assistant's working position is ensured in one elementary school in Čurug by the local help of the Office.

The Office is active in the DILS project "Second Chance" which aims to improve education of the Roma. Six entrepreneurs were granted in 2011 and 2012 by the subsidies from the Provincial Secretariat for Labor, Employment and Gender Equality and the Roma Inclusion Office of APV. The Roma Inclusion Office from Žabalj lobbied for these firms. An agricultural cooperative was founded on the initiative of the Roma Inclusion Office in Žabalj, where green house material was bought (plants, seeds and the green house construction), which received five gold medals for its quality.

The Office achieved a success by appointing health mediators for Roma (founded by the Ministry of Health) and is active on many other fields of the health care.

The Municipality awarded the funds for building and upgrading roads in the Roma settlements on the territory of the Municipality of Žabalj. ECHO built 100 bathrooms in Čurug, and the municipality allocated 25 connections to the city water supply. EHO built 75 baths for 75 Roma families in the local community Đurđevo. The municipality of Žabalj awarded 45 free connections to the city water supply network for the entire project to be successfully completed.

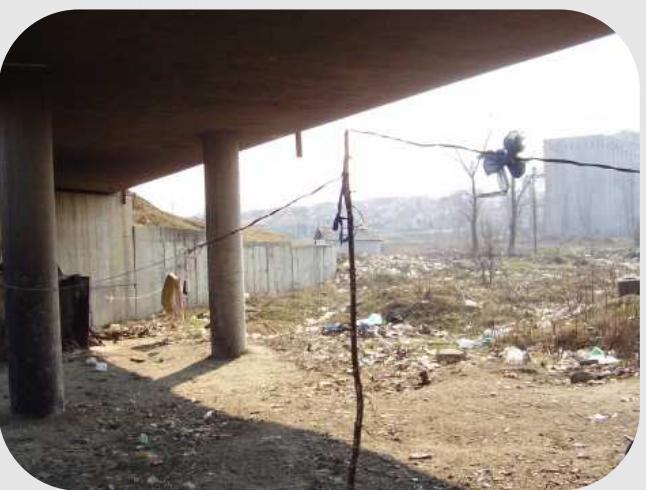
Before the establishment of the Roma Inclusion Office in Žabalj, there were few high school students and even fewer university students. Today, there are around 60 Roma high school students and 5 university students in the municipality of Žabalj. All this is the result of the support of the municipality and the activities of the Roma Inclusion Office of Žabalj. For 62 students the municipality pays the monthly pass for public transportation. Before the Office, this was not a standard. The inclusion of Roma people through education has been much more visible since the establishment of the Office, and its greatest activity is through this segment of the Roma Decade. Workers from the Office go on site to inform every child in every settlement about their rights as Roma students: enrollments, scholarships, dormitories and special programs for high school and university students, finishing elementary schools for adults and re-training and qualifications through the Provincial and National Employment Service programs. The municipality gives the most vulnerable students one-time aid in order for them to successfully finish elementary schools or high schools. All this is performed by the assessment of the Office.

Galerija / Gallery









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KNOW HOW Center is a voluntary, non-profit association, founded in order to towards goals in the field personal, organizational and social development.

The main goal of the Center is to contribute to the development of an inclusive society, through:

- improving personal and professional potential and capacities of children, youth and adults,
- improving the capacity of NGOs and other organizations and institutions in the region,
- empower local communities and promote partnerships and networking at all levels

The examples of good practices shown in this publication are based on the case studies performed by our research team during July-August 2012.

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PARTNERI PROJEKTA:

Centar za proizvodnju znanja i veština ("KNOW HOW Center ") je dobrovoljno, nevladino i neprofitno udruženje, osnovano radi ostvarivanja ciljeva u oblasti ličnog, organizacijskog i društvenog razvoja.

Osnovni cilj CPZV je doprinos razvoju inkluzivnog društva, kroz

- unapređenje ličnih i profesionalnih potencijala i kapaciteta dece, mladih i odraslih,
- unapređenje kapaciteta nevladinih organizacija i drugih organizacija i institucija u okruženju,
- osnaživanje lokalne zajednice i promociju partnerstva i umrežavanja na svim nivoima

U sklopu MERI inicijative CPZV je angažovanjem stručnjaka iz oblasti socijalne zaštite i predstavnika romske nacionalne manjine doprineo da se prikupe podaci, izrade studije slučaja i informiše javnost o primerima dobre prakse u Srbiji.

PARTNERS:

Center for the production of knowledge and skills ("know how Center") is a voluntary, non-profit association, that was founded in order to achieve goals in personal, organizational and social development.

The main objective of the CPZV is to contribute to the development of an inclusive society, through:

- improving personal and professional potential and capacity of children, youth and adults,
- improving the capacity of NGOs and other organizations and institutions in the region,
- empowering local communities and promote partnerships and networking at all levels

Through MARI initiative CPZV hired its experts in the field of social protection and the Roma minority representatives to contribute to the collection of data, preparation of case studies and informing the public on best practices in Serbia.

