



EUROPEAN UNION

DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
TO THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

MISSION REPORT

Subject: reality check for DG NEAR Roma integration award 2016 application no 1

Date: 24th January 2016, Pozarevac

Participants: **Mirjana Maksimovic, Project manager (Social inclusion and minorities), Operations I**

During this reality check, I travelled to Pozarevac to visit Association of Roma in Branicevo district. I was present during project implementation activities with children of preschool age.

The overall project objective was set to improve educational inclusion and poverty reduction of Roma in Pozarevac, through the achievement of six defined specific objectives. The specific objectives were developed to cover the wide range of educational exclusion of Roma children at all educational levels, starting from preschool and to develop active employment inclusion and activation of young educated and additionally trained Roma. All previously developed inter-sector cooperation is being fully set in function through this action. To reassure long term sustainability, objectives were set to obtain complete and reliable needs assessment and to formalize strategic planning through the update of the LAP, which expired during 2015. Social inclusion of Roma is being achieved, not only through the direct educational and employment inclusion, but also through visibility measures targeting the local community and practical inclusion initiative through joint public actions.

The activity clusters are developed to cover educational and social support to preschool children (30 Roma children) in developing their skills and knowledge through regular weekly engagement. The elementary school children (60 Roma pupils) have been receiving support in catch up mentoring support to master the curricula, safe environment for creative free time activities with transportation and provision of snacks and development of healthy nutrition habits. Higher classes are being additionally supported through the schools with text books and the most vulnerable with wardrobe and toys through public actions. The vocational and high school students (15 Roma high school students) and graduates are being supported through text books, informal education in business related skills (10 Roma youth) with internships in public and private institutions/organizations (30 Roma youth internees). At the beginning of 2017, it is planned that young Roma (5 young Roma) will be supported in established facilities of the business incubator and registration of private business, technical and expert support during the first year of running the business and micro grants (3 young Roma entrepreneurs will receive grants) for small businesses outside the scope of the incubator. Sustainability is and will be provided through the clusters of activities of establishment of a database on the base of empirical research of needs and development and adoption of a valid LAP. Inter-sector cooperation has been provided through the signed Partnership agreements and involvement of the stakeholders in previous clusters.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uK8dzLcsIf4&t=15s>

<http://www.ebranicevo.com/pozarevac/dogadjaji/vest/10706/-pravo-da-uce-bolje.html>

<https://pozarevac.rs/en/poziv-za-ucesse-u-projektu-nase-pravo-da-zivimo-bolje-2/>

<http://www.hitradio.rs/vest/7670/skolski-pribor-i-udzbenici-za-romsku-decu>

Cc: video material

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