

EUROPEAN UNION

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TO THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

## MISSION REPORT

Subject: reality check for DG NEAR Roma integration award 2016 application no 4

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> December 2016, Novi Becej

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

During this reality check, I covered application no. 4 - Roma Women of Vojvodina, project "Do you know? Can you?" in Novi Becej. Only meeting was organized with project team that worked on the project, however since project ended there was not a possibility to see the project in the implementation.

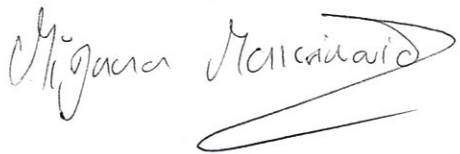
During the meeting it was mentioned that project application no 4 had general objective to enable reducing obstacles faced by young Roma men and women in employment and self-employment and specific objectives to increase level of activity of young Roma men and women in employment and self-employment, significantly increase the employability of young Roma and activate actors in the local labour market to recruit young Roma. Activities of the project proposal unemployed young Roma men and women have set up in the position of an active subject and enabled them to break down barriers (prejudice, discrimination, lack of education and competitiveness in the labour market) through cooperation and direct contacts with employers and other entities of the labour market, by raising the level of training and awareness of employment and activation of potential for cooperation between the employment of this target group and by the actors of the local labour market.

Implemented activities were in the scope of data collection and database creation, common workshop users and project participants, meetings with businessmen and other stakeholders of the labour market, active public information campaign, formation and functioning of an open group for cooperation and group meetings for internal monitoring

The direct beneficiaries of the project were unemployed young Roma men and women aged 15 to 30 years of 200, which is included in the total population in this age, (120 young Roma women and 80 young Roma men). The project has been significantly raised the level of qualification, activity and motivation of direct target group for employment at that level and made positive change. Direct users, with our support, got a kind of hope to get a positive outcome of his efforts for employment. They have been moved for job search that represents a major improvement comparing the previous motivation. We changed vision and attitudes towards indirect target group of young Roma. This is a completely new approach both for users and for the public sector and other actors. Beneficiaries have reacted very positively and accepted the role of active subjects of their own employment. Private entrepreneurs were also open to change in the relationship. The direct target group was involved in all activities of the project and placed in the position of the subject, which is supported by the project team. All agreed solutions from workshops were respected and users were motivated with concrete results: two were employed and one of them opened his own firm (women).

Cc: video material

*Prepared by: Mirjana MAKSIMOVIC*

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mirjana Maksimovic', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.