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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 6

Date:

20th December 2016, Novi Sad

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

During this reality check, I covered application no. 6 - Citizens' Association Work In Progress, project VET4 Mediation With Roma. Meeting was organized for with project team that worked on the project, however since both projects ended there was not a possibility to record testimonies of the final beneficiaries.

For application no 6 - the results achieved by the project are:

- Roma intercultural mediators empowered (thanks to the involvement of national/regional and international actors – CEI – of institutions/authorities – Provincial Office for Roma Integration, the Protector of Citizens, the Ombudswoman, the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, the European Affairs Fund, Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, the Knowhow centre – the social and traditional media, the exchange of experiences/good practices).
- 2. Training transculturalizated to Spain, Republic of Serbia, Italy, Belgium and Romania, countries involved in the project.
- 3. Professional mediators empowered and fostered (thanks to the several articles published on local media, in the magazine The Roma Decade in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina and TV and Radio programmes.
- 4. Mediation empowered, fostered and promoted.
- 5. Employability expanded and increased.
- 6. Possibility to be employable in the SMART economy increased.
- 7. Level of discrimination decreased.
- 8. Social cohesion fostered.

RUT, when implementing projects, is paying a strong attention to favour the flourishing of a positive atmosphere able to welcome everybody, to favour social cohesion reducing the level of discrimination and improving the inter-cultural/interethnic dialogue. To favour a proper integration, nowadays, it is needed to find proper tools able to develop social, but above all, economic pathways of integration avoiding clashes. Without any doubts it is needed to foster education, at all levels, and employability. In Serbia results of positive policies implemented, and under implementation, are visible, 600 Roma, male and female, ended the university. It is now needed to invest on this new generation since they are a positive example for communities. RUT created a data base where are indicated the skills and the attitude of mediators involved in the training. Some mediators already volunteered in some actions/projects (the policy of RUT foresees a period of volunteering before being employed), 2 Roma mediators were employed (on project) and new partnerships were created. All people taking part into the project were empowered. At the end of every face to face session an anonymous survey was submitted to people attending the training. Results of the surveys are part of the elements that contributed in

measuring the results. Quantitative and qualitative indicators have been used to measure the results achieved. At European level, the project brought together a pool of organizations/networks and, indirectly, institutions that otherwise do not collaborate with each other. This led to experience sharing, partnerships creating and resources multiplication that would otherwise not happen; the project opened the doors to new training practices, such as elearning, that will be used in the future.

Cc: video material

Prepared by: Mirjana MAKSIMOVIC