



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 10

Date: 16th December 2016, Belgrade

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

Music Art Project – El Sistema Serbia is a Serbian NGO established in 2010 with the aim to promote social inclusion of marginalised groups, in particular Roma children, through music education using the El Sistema methodology. Music Art Project (MAP) is an accredited member of El Sistema global and El Sistema Europe, a movement present in more than 60 countries and which reaches over 4 million children. In 2014 Music Art Project signed the Letter of Intent with the programs' founder "Fundación Musical Simón Bolívar" of Venezuela, formalizing our position within the El Sistema global network and obtaining support for our activities. At the national level, the El Sistema methodology has been recognized by the Ministry of Science, Education and Technological Development as new and innovative methodology that should be implemented in the Serbian educational system and supported by the UNESCO national commission, since it protects the intangible cultural heritage through the internationally recognized method by UNESCO global.

Three experts are the core team based in Belgrade: managing director, programme director and programme coordinator. There are programs in six cities in Serbia managing themselves as official "nucleos" (local El Sistema center). Although "nucleo" run independently and often customize their programs they are all strongly connected to the core team in Belgrade that serves as the executive and operational administration managing the creation, implementation, outfitting, development, and supervision of the nuclei. Thus, in all nuclei currently 15 teachers are involved in the programme

The overall objective of the Project "Orchestras and choirs of hope" is to enhance creative, emotional and intellectual capacities of children in Vranje. Since the programme has been successfully implemented in 6 towns in Serbia and has reached around 360 children the aim is to widen the network of schools and towns where the El Sistema methodology is implemented.

The specific objectives of the project are:

- Strengthen the capacities and enhance the knowledge of music teachers in the existing educational system to work with vulnerable and marginalized children by the application of the new El Sistema methodology.
- Enhance the inclusion of children from marginalized groups in the joint music project so that they can exercise their right to education and development; strengthen their self-esteem, discipline and motivation.

- Widen the network of schools/institutions implementing El Sistema methodology at the local and national level.

Raise awareness of social workers and teachers regarding the possibilities of strengthening social inclusion through the application of El Sistema methodology.

El Sistema project in Serbia, even though to modest degree, contributed to improvement of the situation regarding human rights in general and, in particular, Roma inclusion.

I visited project premises in Belgrade; however majority of work is implemented in South Serbia.

Cc: video material

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