



**Working Group on Social Inclusion
6 - 7 May 2009, Budapest**

**Administrative capacity for the implementation of Structural Funds projects
addressed to the social inclusion of the Roma**

Questionnaire for debate

This action tries to give an answer to a main concern of participants at the Working Group: how to promote the use of the Structural Funds in favour of the social inclusion of the Roma.

The idea of this session is to discuss and to advance on a programme of seminars to be organised within the Network with a key objective: **to increase, to improve efficiency and to give visibility to actions implemented by Structural Funds with a positive impact on the Roma population.**

These seminars will be addressed to different target groups (local and regional administrations, NGOs, Roma organisations, etc.) and will be adapted to each of them. The proposal is to start by organising before the end of 2009 a first seminar focused, for example, on **local or/and regional authorities**, since this target group was one of the suggested by participants at the WG.

It will be a great opportunity for Managing Authorities to increase their knowledge on these actions and to give visibility to those municipalities/regions investing Structural Funds on initiatives that promote the social inclusion of the Roma and to encourage other municipalities/regions to work in this line.

Participants at this WG session will discuss on the main topics of the seminars, the methodology, profile of invited administrations, experiences to be disseminated, etc.

Questionnaire for discussion

- ✓ What kind of SF projects could be best implemented by regional and local administrations in terms of competencies, principle of subsidiarity, better knowledge of reality, etc. (employment, education, housing, health, fight against discrimination) ?
- ✓ Which would be the added value of this implementation instead of state-wide one?
- ✓ Which is the reality in your countries, how are local and regional administrations accessing SF? Are Roma needs covered by specific actions or projects at regional/local level?
- ✓ Which are the main obstacles for regional and local administrations, especially these latter, for accessing to SF in general terms (lack or shortage of information on how to apply and what procedures to follow, limited training of their employees, financial management difficulties, need of cofinancing, etc)?



Structural Funds: Investing in Roma

- ✓ In the specific case of the access to SF for actions addressed to social inclusion of Roma, which are the main obstacles (no strategic approach, lack of political will, no good references, no interlocutors or partners, etc)? What kind of information would they need to overcome these obstacles? Is it a question of administrative capacity or awareness-raising?
- ✓ Which is or could be the role of Managing Authorities in promoting actions and projects in favour of the social inclusion of the Roma?
- ✓ How EC guidelines (for example, the Social Inclusion Strategy) could encourage local and regional authorities to implement actions for improving the social inclusion of the Roma?
- ✓ Do you think that presenting some examples of municipalities or regions implementing actions targeted to Roma population could be helpful for encouraging others to follow the examples (to get some approaches, ideas on what and how to do it, contacts, potential partners, concrete results, etc.)? Would it be the right approach?
- ✓ What could be the role of NGOs and Roma organisations (partners, consultative role, monitoring...)?
- ✓ Do you have in your country any experience to be presented? At local or regional level?
- ✓ How do you suggest approaching the issue of partnership? How would you address this topic?
- ✓ Which would be the profile of those invited to the seminar (regional and local administrations who have showed interest in implementing projects addressed to Roma; those who are already implementing actions; those who are unwilling to launch such kind of projects; a combination of all those)?
- ✓ Which could be the role of the EURoma Network in this process?
- ✓ Organisational issues. In the case WG participants decide to organise a seminar/s based on this proposal:
 - ✓ How do you envisage the organisation, as transnational seminar/s or national ones (advantages and disadvantages)?
 - ✓ How long would it take (1 - 2 days)?
 - ✓ Profile of participants
 - ✓ How many people would attend the seminar?
 - ✓ Focused on local or / and regional administrations?
 - ✓ Continuous process or a punctual action?
 - ✓ When and where?
 - ✓ Proposals for financing the event