



# First thoughts on how to make transparent the ESF experiences carried out in Italy in favour of the Roma

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## Preliminary remarks

Italy agrees with the requirement put forth by the EC and adopted by the Euroma Network of ensuring greater visibility of what has been done in favour of the Roma population in the sphere of Structural Funds.

In particular, Italy intends to commit itself concretely in order to contribute in the acquisition of reliable and disaggregate data, within 2013, regarding ESF projects aimed at the Roma.

Difficulties of survey are: privacy problems regarding the target group, different financial sources for projects aimed at the Roma (ESF national, regional, local), different levels of governance, different administrative competences, different types of projects: directly addressing Roma users (for example training courses) or destined to contrast the discrimination of the Roma (cultural mediation, informative campaigns, etc...) even indirectly.



The current data collection structure on 2007–2013 Structural Fund Projects in Italy is managed by the Ministry of Economy.

Information on “vulnerable groups” is surveyed at the project level in accordance with the following modalities:

- Minorities (linguistic, ethnic, religious,...)
- Migrants: non-EU citizens
- Migrants: Nomads
- Migrants: other migrants
- Disabled persons/physically and/or mentally handicapped
- Other disadvantaged subjects [...]

*It is possible to select more than one category.*

Annex XXIII: Data on the participants of ESF operations organized per priority consistent with the EC Reg. 1828/06 on Structural Funds, which defines the classification of participants on the basis of vulnerable groups, in accordance with national legislation:

- minorities
- migrants
- disabled persons
- other disadvantaged subjects.



## Italy: facts and figures about ROMA communities

In Italy, the presence of Roma, Sinthi and Camminanti communities is estimated in approximately 170 thousand persons (rounded down data) and includes Italian, EU (mainly Romanian) and non-EU (of former Yugoslavian origin) citizens. The largest part of them are sedentary and only a limited number is nomadic; many are in a condition of extreme poverty and alienation and can be nonetheless included in more than one disadvantaged category. Finally, the Roma, Sinthi and Camminanti are not considered minorities according to the national legislation. Consequently, neither the EC categorization nor the one adopted at the national level are suitable to represent the Italian situation.



## Initiatives undertaken by the Ministry of Labour (the ESF managing authority)

A change was proposed in the monitoring categories of the national survey system (valid exclusively at the project level).

The field “Migrants: Nomads” will be renamed “Migrants: Roma, Sinthi and Camminanti”; thus the field “Migrants: Roma, Sinthi and Camminanti” will need to be indicated regardless the nationality (Italian, EU, non-EU) of the migrant.

This will allow to avoid the duplication and/or dispersion of information, consenting the acquisition of homogeneous data at the project level, even though it will lead to an overestimation of the data regarding Migrants (cf. the EC division, Annex XXIII) as the field will also include Italian citizens among migrants.



## Initiatives undertaken by the Ministry of Labour (the ESF managing authority)/2

As soon as the proposal's sharing process with the Ministry of Economy will be completed, the indication will be released as a guideline by the Ministry of Labour to all ESF Managing Authorities so that it may be adopted during the monitoring phase.

Given the peculiarity of the target group and the heterogeneity of the projects, it will be important to place in depth examinations of qualitative character in the analysis of the ESF experiences carried out in favour of the Roma minorities, next to the survey of the quantitative data.