



## PROJECT

«Recording of the existing situation of the Roma  
Population in Greece, Evaluation of Actions  
Implemented and Development of Action Plan for  
the 4<sup>th</sup> EU Programming Period»



GREEK MINISTRY OF LABOUR  
AND SOCIAL SECURITY  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR THE  
MANAGEMENT OF EUROPEAN  
FUNDS



EUROPEAN UNION  
EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

# OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

- ◆ **Evaluation** of the actions / interventions implemented in the framework of the Integrated Action Plan for the Social Integration of Greek Roma (2001-2006)
- ◆ **Examination and recording** of the existing living and housing situation of Roma population in Greece and update of data in regard to the conditions of the settlements where Roma live
- ◆ **Field research** and recording of the housing, employment, health and education needs in specific Roma settlements
- ◆ **Development of long – term strategy** for the social inclusion of the Roma population and elaboration of an **Action Plan** for the 4th EU Programming Period, 2007-2013

# EVALUATION OF ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED IN THE HOUSING FIELD

## MAIN ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED

- Development of new and improvement of existing settlements
- Land acquisition for the establishment of public infrastructures
- Land – planning studies
- Infrastructure projects (Road construction, Water supply/electricity infrastructures, Sewage systems infrastructures, Infrastructures for the establishment of prefabricated houses)
- Programme of housing loans for Roma
- Provision of prefabricated houses (1760 during the period 1997-2007)
- ✓ Poor structural quality of the houses
- ✓ Small size of houses –inadequate to meet the housing needs of the habitants
- ✓ High costs – obstacle to the development of an integrated housing policy

# EVALUATION OF ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED IN THE HOUSING FIELD

## OVERALL ASSESSMENT

- ✓ Vague financing criteria
- ✓ Insufficient examination of the existing housing conditions and lack of detection of problems and needs prior to the implementation of local projects
- ✓ Housing measures were not incorporated in a local integrated programme
- ✓ Insufficient participation of the interested parties (Roma households) in the decision making process
- ✓ Insufficient promotion of the issue of Roma obtaining a permanent residence
- ✓ Problems of operational design, organization and implementation of the interventions
  - Failure to obtain of the required public funds
  - insufficient exploitation of ESF funds
  - absence of clear preconditions and criteria for the approval, on – going evaluation and control of the interventions

# EVALUATION OF ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED IN THE EMPLOYMENT FIELD

## MAIN ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED

- **INTEGRATED INTERVENTIONS (67 Programmes – 1340 users benefited) – MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY**  
(12% of participants had access in active labour market policies - 2% of participants placed in working positions)
  - Training
  - Counseling
  - Promotion of employment opportunities
  
- **Local Interventions of Development - REGIONAL OPERATIONAL PROGRAMS**
- **Integrated interventions of urban development in the urban areas - REGIONAL OPERATIONAL PROGRAMS**
  - consulting, training actions and promotion of employment
  - Support for the establishment of new enterprises.
- **Enhancement of ROMA entrepreneurship Programme**
  - 1.402 proposals submitted - 580 proposals approved.

# EVALUATION OF ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED IN THE EMPLOYMENT FIELD

## OVERALL ASSESSMENT

- ✓ Lack of continuity and connection with other complementary measures of employability enhancement
- ✓ Lack of effective time – planning
- ✓ Insufficient intersection of the interventions with the existing needs of Roma and the local labour market needs
- ✓ Difficulties in the accessibility for Roma to programmes of subsidized labour
- ✓ Low level of flexibility and adaptation of the interventions to the special characteristics of Roma population, its potential, knowledge and special abilities, needs and expectations
- ✓ Consulting support focused mainly on psychosocial support without addressing employability enhancement and labour market entry issues
- ✓ Difficulties in regard to the coordination of the partners and partnership management
- ✓ Delays in the commencement and implementation of interventions

# EVALUATION OF ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED IN THE EDUCATION FIELD

## MAIN ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED

- PROGRAMME «ROMA CHILDREN EDUCATION» 1/1/2000 - 31/10/2001
- PROGRAMME «ACCESS OF ROMA CHILDREN TO SCHOOL» 8/3/2002 - 30/6/2004
- PROGRAMME «ACCESS OF ROMA CHILDREN TO SCHOOL» 20/3/2006 - 31/12/20047
- o Educational interventions
- o Educational supervision and support
- o Student support through supplementary teaching classes at primary school
- o Production of Educational material
- o Establishment and operation of Educational Support Centers (KEPYSE)
- o Operation of Music and Language workshops
- o Operation of 'Parent Schools' to inform and sensitize parents in educational and social inclusion issues
- o Creative occupation workshops

# EVALUATION OF ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED IN THE EDUCATION FIELD

## OVERALL ASSESSMENT

Improvement of school subscription numbers, frequency of school attendance, student performance, and decreasing drop –out rates.

- ❑ 1<sup>st</sup> implementation phase : 9000 subscriptions - 25% drop –out rate
- ❑ 2nd implementation phase : 8000 subscriptions - 15% drop –out rate
- Higher school attendance at urban centers
- Higher drop –out rate at non urban areas (movement of the population, poor housing conditions etc)
- Insufficient implementation of supplementary teaching classes
- High number of subscriptions due to financing reasons (provision of educational allowance)
- Insufficient exploitation of educational material



# EVALUATION OF ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED IN THE HEALTH FIELD

## MAIN ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED

- Establishment and operation of social – health centers (32)
- Mobile health units
- Vaccination, prevention, and health education programmes
- Roma population and community information / sensitization programmes

## EVALUATION OF ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED IN THE HEALTH FIELD    OVERALL ASSESSMENT

### Social – health centers

- ◆ Intermediary institutions / user – friendly to Roma population
- ◆ Small and flexible units of social intervention with actions targeting both Roma population and local community
- ◆ Local character : knowledge of local community and specific Roma living conditions
- ◆ Delays in their infrastructure establishment and the required medical / pharmaceutical supply provision
- ◆ Insufficient connection with hospital network at regional and local level
- ◆ Insufficient operation in regard to Roma entering relegation the official health institutions
- ◆ Financial dependence on EU Support Framework and not on permanent national funds- need for institutional fortification, stability and viability insurance
- ◆ High number of Roma population vaccination
- ◆ Improvement of Roma knowledge and attitude towards health issues
- ◆ Lack of a mechanism for recording hygienic parameters and conditions
- ◆ Lack of research implementation in regard to the effects of living conditions to population's health

# OVERALL EVALUATION OF THE ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED

- ✓ Lack of homogeneity of interventions
- ✓ Lack of a mechanism for following – up, evaluating and recording of the interventions' results
- ✓ Priority not given to the confrontation of the most important problems and needs
- ✓ Interventions were not and implemented based on Roma population special characteristics - Insufficient knowledge of Roma particularities
- ✓ Insufficient addressing of Roma real needs
- ✓ Lack of an integrated approach in regard to interventions design and implementation
- ✓ Insufficient promotion of regional and local partnerships
- ✓ Insufficient organizational and technical capacity of implementation parties
- ✓ Insufficient participation of the interested parties (Roma households) in the decision making and implementation process
- ✓ Lack of interventions' progress control and evaluation
  - Lack of financing continuity and consistency
  - Quality factors and continuity of interventions not predicted during design phase

# OVERALL EVALUATION OF THE INTEGRATED ACTION PLAN DESIGN

- Positive initiative and overall contribution – creation of a cohesive policy and a frame of reference in regard to the Roma issue in Greece
- Acknowledgement of the different categories of Roma population problems and needs in regard to the different types of residence
- Lack of funds and fluctuation of financing mechanism in regard to the implementation and fund absorption progress in each field
- Design of Integrated Action Plan after the completion and approval of Operational Programmes – inability for measures to be incorporated and financed by them
- Absence of a Central unified centre for the overall coordination of the Action Plan interventions