



Център Амалипе

The Roma community and HRD OP

PARTNERSHIP AND INVOLVMENT

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observer in MK from the group of Roma NGOs

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EU Funds involvement with Roma integration

National Strategic Reference Framework

Operational programs (such as HRD OP, RD OP, ACOP)

Rural Areas Development Program

As result from partnership between Roma NGOs, Managing Authorities and European Commission Roma integration points were included in the NSRF and HRD OP, partly – in RD OP. The Rural Areas Development Program remained “deaf” for Roma Integration claims



HRD OP involvement

By its design the OPHRD is the programme which supports the process of Roma integration at highest level, compared with the rest of the operational programmes.

- The Roma people are defined as a specific target group in 6 areas of intervention;
- Targeted intervention are envisaged in 6 areas of intervention;
- specific charter “Areas of intervention with regard to the Roma community” is also a part of the document;
- there are indicators for measurement of the effect in the Roma community.



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NGO involvement with HRD OP

1. In planning and monitoring: NGOs could not be members of the Monitoring Committee but “observers”

Special procedure for electing NGO observers was organized by the Managing Authority: 5 groups of NGOs were defined, “Organizations that work for Roma integration ” was one of them

Big number of Roma NGOs participated and elected observer and deputy

They took active part in the work of Monitoring Committee

NGO involvement with HRD OP

Overall, good cooperation between Roma NGO representatives and the Managing Authority / Intermediate Bodies was established

7 Roma targeted calls were announced: 5 of them initiated by Roma observers in the MK

Roma integration Working group was established within MK



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NGO involvement with HRD OP

2. In implementing: NGOs were defined as possible beneficiaries in most of the measures for Roma integration

NGOs were not defined as concrete beneficiaries

The projects implemented by NGOs were limited to 200 000 euro per project: local initiatives

As result, the capacity of Roma NGOs was not used properly!



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NGO involvement with planning the new HRD OP

NGO representatives are included in the Working group for preparing the new HRD OP: one of the categories is “social organizations that work for integration of minorities and migrants”

Big advantage is also the existence of Interministerial Task Force for Resource Provision of Roma Integration chaired by the Minister of EU funds: not clear whether it will exist



Challenges

1. The coordination among the Roma integration measures within different ESF funded programs could be a serious problem;
2. “Integration of marginalized communities such as Roma” should be among the main investment priorities of Priority Axis in the new ESF funded programs
3. The status of “member” for the NGO representatives in the MK is necessary. Roma NGOs should have their representatives
4. Roma NGOs should be beneficiaries of bigger grants – in order to use their capacity
5. The involvement of Regions in development OP and Rural Areas Development program with Roma integration is crucial!



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Thank you for your attention!

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