



GUVERNUL ROMÂNIEI
AGENȚIA NAȚIONALĂ PENTRU ROMI

Contribution of EU funds to the integration of Roma

High Level Event

Bucharest October 13, 2010

Ilie Dincă –NAR President

Secretary of state



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Presentation of the National Agency for Roma

National Agency for Roma (NAR) is a specialized body of central public administration, with legal personality, subordinated to the Government and coordinated by the General Secretariat of the Government.

NAR was set up in 2004 through Governmental Ordinance no 78/2004, approved by Law no 7/2005 and is organized and operates according to Governmental Decision no 1703/2004, amended and supplemented.

NAR initiate, participate and promote activities, projects and sectoral programs to improve the situation of Roma people, in cooperation with institutions and nongovernmental organizations.

The main object of activity of NAR is to ensure the complementarities of various public policies for Roma people.

National Agency for Roma is based on two concepts: transparency and integrated programs.



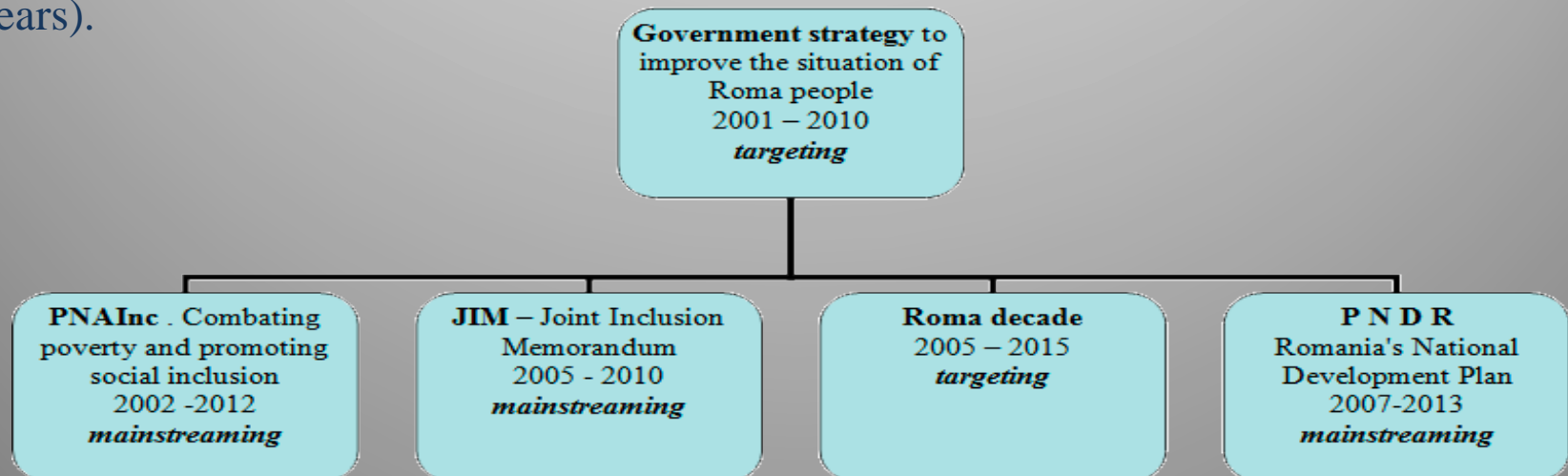
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Public policies for the Roma minority in Romania

Generally all national and European public policies that included the Roma minority, developed during 2001-2007, were developed for long-term (10 years).

The strategies for Roma minority include guidelines in the following areas: **education, health, vocational education and employment, housing and infrastructure, accompanied by measures to combat discrimination and promote gender equality.**

The action plans for implementing the strategies are developed for the short term (4 years).





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Financial resources allocated to the measures included in the public policies for Roma people

During the period 1999-2010 have been allocated pre and post accession funds, reimbursable and non reimbursable funds (grants), totalling **157.3 million Euros**, as follows:

- **134.4 million Euros** grants, out of which:
 - **118.1 million Euros** EU funds (**87.88%**);
 - **16.3 million Euros** from the state budget funds (**12.12%**).

- **22.9 million euro** reimbursable funds from BIRD.



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Pre-accession funds

During the period 1999 – 2008

- **298 projects** budgeted with **38.6 million Euros**, out of which **35.1 million Euros** from PHARE funds and **3.5 million Euro** as national contributions.

State Budget

- **20 projects** with a budget of **0,065 million Euros** from RAXI fund;
- **13 projects** with a budget of **0,085 million Euros** from counterpart fund;
- **45 projects** with a budget of **3.4 million Euros** from the Government contribution.

PHARE grant:

- **220 projects** with a budget of **35.1 million Euros** from PHARE funds in 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004-2006.



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Reimbursable funds.Social Inclusion Programme (SIP)

On July 4, 2006 - the Memorandum for a loan from the **BIRD**, with a budget of **59 million Euros** in order to finance exclusively the project on social inclusion of vulnerable groups and disadvantaged communities.

Implementing SIP through **133 projects** with a budget of **22.9 million Euros**, as follows:

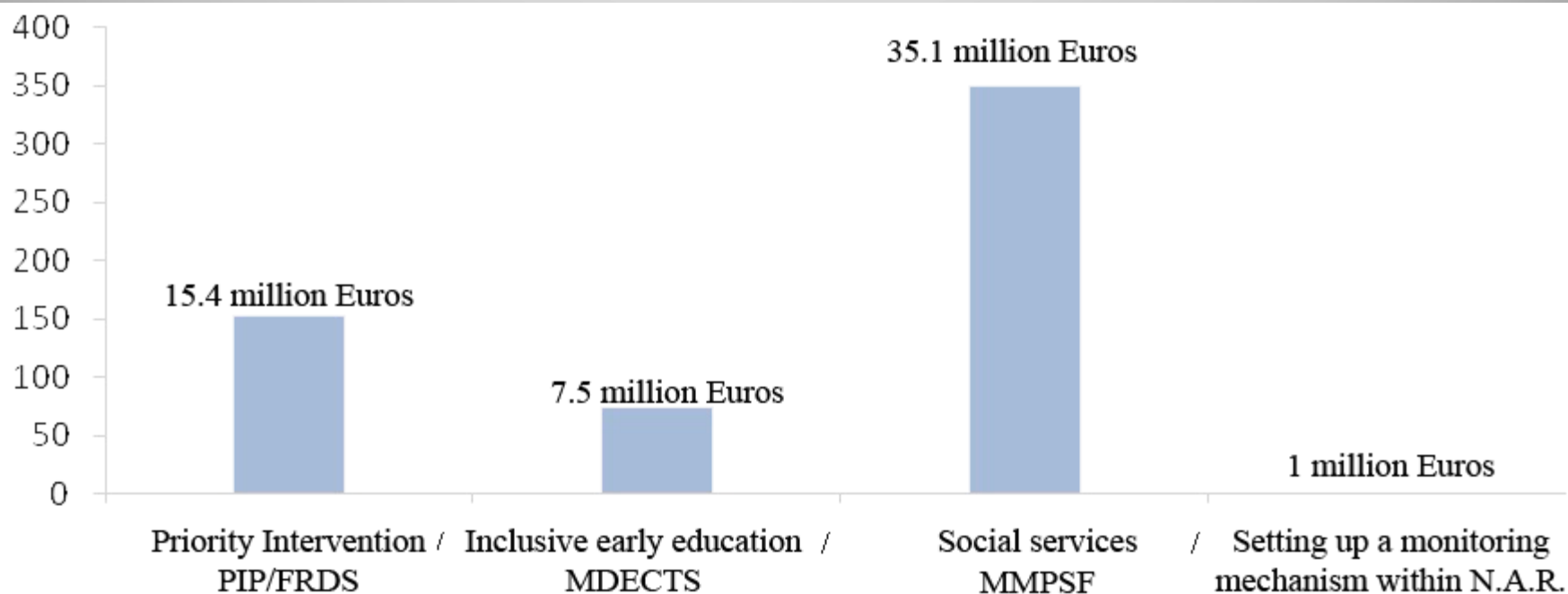
- **106 projects** with a budget of **15.4 million Euros** for the development and infrastructure improvements, implemented by Romanian Social Development Fund;
- **27 projects** with a budget of **7.5 million Euros** for the construction and rehabilitation of kindergartens for children, implemented by The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

SIP will be implemented in Romania until 2011



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Reimbursable funds.Social Inclusion Programme (SIP)





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Post-accession funds. European Social Fund (ESF)

In Romania currently are implemented **32 projects** funded by the European Social Fund, with a budget of approximately **123.8 million Euros**, of which **70.9 million** is the contribution from the European Union.

The **32 projects** were submitted in **three priority axes** of POSDRU, as follows:

PA 2 - Linking lifelong learning and labour market: **11 projects**;

PA 5 - Promoting active employment measures: **3 projects**;

PA 6 - Promoting Social Inclusion: **18 projects**.

The National Agency for Roma – **6 strategic projects** are implemented at national level, have an implementation period of **3 years** and a total value over **22.2 million Euros**, out of which over **EUR 18.6 million** contributions from the European Union and **3.6 million Euro** national contributions.



Post-accession funds. European Social Fund (ESF)

PA2 - Linking lifelong learning and labour market, preventing and correcting early school leaving have been contracted **2 projects** totalling over **6.4 million Euros**, of which **5.2 million Euros** representing EU contribution and **1.2 million Euros** representing national contribution.

PA6 - Promoting social inclusion, **4 projects** have been contracted with an amount of **15.8 million Euros**, out of which **12.2 million Euros** representing EU contribution and **3.6 million Euros** representing national contribution.

Strategic projects are implemented in **541 communities**.

The beneficiaries - over **37,000 people**, **70%** is the percentage of Roma people, meaning more than **25,000 Roma people**.

- **October 2009** the absorption rate was increased from **2.27%** to **35%**.
- **December 2010** the absorption rate will increase to approximately **50%**.

22 October 2009, has decided to set up a **Technical Working Group** to support access of Roma people to the operations financed by European Social Fund trough **SOPHRD** in **MC SOPHRD**



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European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

In the **Regional Operational Program (ROP)**, haven't been provided special allocation of funds for the Roma people, but they are able to submit projects for housing rehabilitation or to improve social infrastructure.

Within the **ROP Monitoring Committee** in the autumn of this year, **NAR** will require analysis of possibility to reallocate funds for housing for Roma, as a result of the amendment to Art. 7 of the Regulation on the ERDF and following the elaboration of the guidelines for its implementation by the European Commission.



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European Agriculture Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

Roma people can use support from **European Agriculture Fund for Rural Development** through the National Rural Development Programme (**NRDP**) for projects concerning infrastructure. According to available data regarding the number of approved projects, the financial allocations have been overcome and a reallocation of funds would be appropriate.



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NAR solutions for a better use of EU funds

Development of a European strategy for solving problems of Roma ethnic citizens.

Introduction of a key area of intervention dedicated to Roma people in each Operational Programme, which supports activities for the integration of this vulnerable group.

Funding integrated projects at local level including the main areas of social inclusion of Roma people:

- Jobs
- Education
- Housing
- Health.

Education of Roma Children

- the path to a stable job -

Objectives:

- reducing early school leaving;
- ensuring access to education;
- human capital development for labour;
- market integration;
- support for returning to school.

Target group:

- counseling and financial support for 1200 Roma pupils in gymnasium;
- advice and financial support for 750 high school pupils for better integration into high school first year system;
- advice and financial support for 450 high school pupils for better integration on labour market;
- 2400 people encouraged to return to school.

Expected results:

- higher levels of education of Roma children in rural and urban area;
- changing the parental attitudes toward school and the importance of school for their children;
- greater opportunities for labor market integration.

Together, for a better society



Project implemented in partnership with Fondazione Giacomo Brodolini from Italy, Conform SRL Italy and the National Organization of Disabled People in Romania

Objective: To improve labor market participation of vulnerable groups and promoting social inclusion.

Target groups: 2000 persons belonging to vulnerable groups, including:

- 1000 Roma people;
- 800 people who live with the guaranteed minimum income;
- 200 people with disabilities.

Main activities:

- Counseling and training;
- Submitting financing request;
- Public-private partnerships.

Expected results:

- 2000 people qualified;
- 600 people employed;
- 8 resource centres for social economy created;
- 80 projects funding applications;
- 8 regional partnerships that promote social economy;
- 42 support groups for social economy created;
- 40 experts specialization in the field of social economy.

School - a chance for everyone

Objectives:

- Improving the participation of Roma children, poor and disabled children at primary and secondary level of education;
- Diminishing the school drop out;
- Creating a collaboration and networking mechanisms among the actors involved in educational issues;
- Increasing the quality of education services.

Target group:

- **1200** pupils, participating in “after school” educational programmes in 85 schools from 20 counties;
- **1000** persons participating to “Second chance” educational programmes in 100 schools from 20 counties.
- **400** teachers trained in teaching techniques tailored on the pupil’s needs;
- **200** persons trained for providing the “after school” service;
- **10000** pupils under the risk of school drop out counselled and guided;
- **8000** parents trained and counselled in order to support the process of education of their children

Together on the work market



Project implemented in partnership with Foundation Secretariado Gitano - Spania and Asociația Pakiv – România

Main objective: to promote social inclusion of Roma people on the labour market.

Target group: 6770 persons.

Main directions:

- Employment;
- Vocational Training;
- Education.

Expected results:

- **3000** persons informed and involved into the project;
- **1070** persons enrolled in vocational training programs;
- **800** persons employed;
- **1100** persons involved in the professional counseling;
- **800** persons involved in the educational programs;
- **8** social-inclusion centers for Roma minority (București-Ilfov, Alba-Iulia, Brăila, Cluj-Napoca, Călărași, Craiova, Iași, Timișoara).

Participation of vulnerable groups in social economy



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Main objective : develop the capacity of the local communities to realize a durable local development with the participation of vulnerable groups.

Target groups:

- **9.800** roma people exposed to social exclusion;
- **7.000** offenders and ex-offenders;
- **1.200** addicted to drugs;
- **1.000** women, victims of domestic violence;
- **1.000** young people, over 18 years who leave the institutional system for child protection and look for a job;

Activities under the project:

- Training;
- Professional Qualification;
- Counseling.

Anticipated results:

- **50** structures of the social economy set up and creating 500 jobs;
- **120** managers, specialists and trainers in the social economy;
- **1800** participants in training programs of which 60% will receive certificates;
- **300** specialists trained in the field of social inclusion;
- **20,000** people counseled to achieve and maintain a job;
- **50** public - private partnerships concluded.

National network of Roma local experts

Objectiv: The improvement of partnership relations between vulnerable Roma communities and public institutions at a local, regional and national level, in order to increase the social inclusion of Roma people from Romania, through the development of the network of local experts for Roma, at a national level.

Target groups:

- **210** roma people, out of which 50% women;
- **1050 persons**, employees of social partners;
- **252 persons from public authorities at local level:**
 - **42 counsellors** from the institution of the Prefect;
 - **210 non-Roma representatives from the city halls** which benefit from the project.

Results achieved:

- **210** local actions plans which consist of measures of social inclusion of Roma;
- **210** Roma communities from all counties of Romania, will be represented at the level of the local public administration, by Roma local experts;
- **210** local working groups (LWG), created in the selected localities for intervention (min.1050 LWG members);
- **500** proposals for financing elaborated by Roma local experts, for the implementation of measures of social inclusion of Roma included in the local action plans;
- **100.000** persons Roma and non-Roma, informed about the social exclusion.