



European
Commission



The European Union and Roma – Factsheet Sweden

<http://ec.europa.eu/justice/roma-integration/sweden/>

4 April 2014

1. Key Information

Roma population	
Estimate in National Roma Integration Strategy	Approximately 50 000
Council of Europe Estimate	Approximately 50 000 (data from 2012) i.e. 0.53 % of the population
National Strategy	http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma-integration/sweden/national-strategy/national_en.htm
Funding	http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma-integration/sweden/index_en.htm

2. National Roma Integration – 2014 review

	Key steps taken since 2011	Identified Gaps
Education	<p>Government program to allow all Roma children to receive education in Romani language</p> <p>Development of teaching materials in Romani language</p> <p>Production of teaching supplement about national minorities with special focus on Roma distributed in schools.</p>	<p>The provision of teaching on the Romani language should be accompanied by the allocation of appropriate funding and administrative capacity.</p> <p>The impact of these measures now needs to be monitored.</p> <p>Needs to prioritise further efforts to promote vocational training and increasing participation in secondary and tertiary education.</p> <p>Needs awareness raising campaigns among Roma.</p>

Employment	<p>Monitoring Roma employment in five pilot municipalities (“bridge-builders” programme)</p> <p>Focus on training Roma women to increase their employability.</p>	<p>The impact of these measures now needs to be monitored.</p> <p>Needs to reach out to private employers (via anti-discrimination campaign, or fiscal incentives) to support employment of Roma.</p>
Health	<p>Roma mediators in healthcare services (with special focus on Roma women and girls).</p> <p>Various programs to help Roma women, dedicated to reproductive health.</p>	<p>Should develop more targeted programmes, including preventive healthcare.</p>
Housing	<p>Monitoring Roma housing in five pilot municipalities (“bridge-builders” programme).</p>	<p>Access of Roma to social housing could be supported by EU funds in a more extensive manner.</p> <p>Needs to pay attention to eliminating discriminatory practices in the property market.</p>
Anti-discrimination	<p>Report from the Equality Ombudsman on discrimination of Roma.</p> <p>Awareness-raising activities and promotion of inter-cultural dialogue between Roma and non-Roma.</p>	<p>As highlighted in the Swedish Ombudsman’s report, ensuring equality and non-discriminatory practices, in particular on the property market, is still a challenge.</p> <p>Needs to effectively ensure the effective practical enforcement of discrimination legislation.</p>
Funding	<p>Roma inclusion supported by national and EU funds.</p> <p>In the 2007-2013 financial period, Sweden has allocated 3.4 % (~ €23 million) of its total European Social Fund (ESF) budget for integrating disadvantaged people.</p>	<p>As of now, Sweden should allocate at least 20% of its total ESF budget to fighting social exclusion and poverty.</p>
Priorities for the future (Commission recommendation)	<p>A constructive dialogue with civil society and close cooperation with local and regional authorities needs to be reinforced.</p> <p>The impact of measures and activities taken to support Roma inclusion should be further monitored.</p>	

3. Contacts

Contact Points	
National Roma Contact Point	Division for Discrimination Issues Ministry of Employment T:+46-8-405 21 40 Email : andres.zanzi@gov.se
Managing Authorities for ESF (European Social Fund) funded projects	Swedish ESF Council Radet for Europeiska socialfonden i Sverige Tel. (46-8) 579 171 00 or (46-8) 203 333 90 http://www.esf.se/
Managing Authorities for ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) funded projects	http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/manage/authority/authorities.cfm?lan=EN&pay=se
Fundamental Rights Agency Country Report:	http://fra.europa.eu/en/country-data/2013/country-thematic-studies-situation-roma

4. Promising practices

Offering tuition and business skills

The Adult Education Association in Gothenburg (Studieförbundet Vuxenskolan i Göteborg) offers tuition for Roma who have not completed primary or secondary school education. The city of Gothenburg also launched a programme offering Roma 12-week courses in entrepreneurship and the practical skills to develop their own business ideas. Led by the East Gothenburg authority, the 'New Way' project co-funded by the European Social Fund helps Roma people integrate better into the Swedish workforce. Business-aware cultural interpreters are on hand and expert instructors offer modules on marketing, taxation and finance. The project aims to find new ways into work, including self-employment, education or as an employee

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/files/roma_stories_2013/sweden_en.pdf