

ERGO Network

European Roma Grassroots Organisations (ERGO) Network:

- Brings together over 25 Roma organisations from across Europe.
- Functions as liaison between Roma organisations and European decision makers, policy makers and institutions.

Framework Partnership Agreement DG EMPL 2014-2017

- Assess impact of EU funding, specifically ESF
- Strengthen the role of Roma NGOs in policy delivery
- Fact-finding and evidence based advocacy

2014: Synthesis Paper on LEADER and ART 7.2

- LEADER did not reach out to Roma due to the focus on agriculture
 - > in Romania, Bulgaria and Slovakia over 50% of Roma live in rural areas, while not possessing land or being employed in agri-businesses
- Roma inclusion should be integral and horizontal part of the Local Development Strategy investing in equal citizenship for all
 - > Promote principles and approaches for real Roma participation in CLLD

Community-Led Local Development funding tool:

Why ERGO Network invests in CLLD, because it has:

- Bottom-up approach: Involvement of local actors with a clear incentive to reach out to hard to reach groups –such as Roma
 - > Animation and community organizing
- Unique funding tool: Flexible, innovative, transparent –all conditions to invest in local democracies
 - > In countries with a large number of Roma, (local) democracies are weak

Work with our members on CLLD

- Focus on Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Czech Republic and Slovakia both Urban and Rural CLLD
- Empower Roma groups to take part in the LAGs structure, participate in the Local Development Strategy and monitor the performance of the LAG
- Advocate towards Ministries and Management Authorities to set the right conditions so that Roma can Participate
 - > Mission Romania 2014 & Partnership Agreement
- Develop (participatory) monitoring tool and mapping
- Build relations with National RDN
 - > Workshop Romania 2015

CLLD Working and Expert Meeting with Ministries and EC

- Co-organised by Romanian Ministry for EU Funding, World Bank and European Foundation Centre
- With special contribution of European Network for Rural Development



Achievement of the Working group meeting

- Exchange and relation building between different actors: ministries, MA, EC desk officers, EC policy officers and Roma NGOs
- ERGO members were asked to provide information and expertise (for drafting the CLLD guidelines, taking part in monitoring committee)

Possible possibilities for cooperation with NRDN's

- Provide expertise for capacity building and technical assistance for LAGs and other actors through NRN (fi offering training modules, information sharing)
- Promote Roma inclusion through Pledges or MoU's with LAGs or positive incentives (Thank You Mayor Campaign)