



NATIONAL
LEADER
NETWORK

ENRD Workshop on
The role of LEADER/CLLD and
networking in supporting social
inclusion in rural areas
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Working Group 3: Integration of Roma people

Transnational cooperation on Roma integration (Serbia-Romania),
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Where we are?



EU Funded Program in Serbia – Instrument for Pre-accession

- Support to the social inclusion of the most vulnerable groups, including Roma, through more diversified community-based social services

“Fair Oil Serbia: Affordable Green Economy Solutions for Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Jobs of Rural Roma”

implemented by partnership:

Municipality of Alibunar, Municipality of Kovin, NGO LEADER+ Banatski Karlovac

This Project contributes to socio-economic inclusion of Roma population in Alibunar and Kovin (Serbia), through providing green jobs in processing used cooking oil (UCO) into biodiesel,

which is relevant to

global objective to improve social inclusion and poverty reduction among the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.

What do we do for and with Roma?

Circular economy + Social Inclusion:

Supporting local Roma CSOs to team up with local public utility companies – transport companies who are providing public transport for schoolchildren- by collecting used cooking oil and processing it to biofuel, to be further used in school buses.

Project Results

- Two Social Enterprises (SE) of local rural Roma supported and partnered with public utility services, with 10 permanent jobs created and another 10 permanent income opportunities created through freelance/outourcing;
- Network of relevant CSOs established for collaboratively spreading and advocating creation of rural SSI jobs and permanent incomes;
- Relevant national/IPA assistance tailored to the needs for creation of SSI jobs and permanent incomes of rural Roma advocated, maximized and available;
- Permanent SSI jobs advocacy mechanisms for influencing and monitoring public bodies in charge of programming of relevant national/IPA assistance established.

What do we do for and with Roma?

- We introduce new model for jobs and self-employment of Roma in Serbia: ***clean, dignity job in used cooking oil collection, handling, storing and processing, with permanent source of income***, which contributes also to the ***wider society and to environment***. It also offers to target group CSOs' ***education and skills improvement for management, finance, marketing, which are useful not only for this job***.

- It ***develops active social inclusion of Roma beneficiaries of financial social assistance***, through trainings for UCO collection, handling and conversion to biofuels; trainings for business administration skills (marketing, management, finance..); small-scale adaptations and reconstructions of utility premises; purchase and installation of biofuels processors and equipment; and support for meeting start-up regulatory and operating needs and requirements.
- Project includes ***activities that specifically target Roma in recruitment of staff*** for cooking oils collection, handling and conversion to biofuels, and sales. Project will also provide information availability in Romani language.
- ***Rural Roma women will be at least 50%*** in jobs, and participants in educational workshops, trainings.

Project follow-on and transnational spreading

- Cross-Border Cooperation of pLAGs from Serbia and LAGs from Romania, with the Roma social inclusion as highlight topic
- Joint project between Serbian partners “Leader+ Banatski Kalrovac” and “National LEADER Network”, and Romanian partner “Euroland Banat Association” using Interreg IPA Cross-border Cooperation Program – project was submitted

CBC LAGs Cooperation

- Cooperation between Romanian and Serbian Local Action Groups, and their 2 national LAG Networks, within the topic of social entrepreneurship
- *The overall objective* is to shift society of Banat from scarcity and pollution to job creation and clean energy, with resources which are locally available, by tackling issues that cause environmental and social problems in new ways.

CBC LAGs Cooperation

- ***The specific objective 1*** is to promote, network and support Blue Economy organizations and initiatives of Banat
- ***The specific objective 2*** is to build targeted organizations' and communities' capacity for creating new employment opportunities through blue economy principles.

We will be glad to cooperate!

- National LEADER Network Serbia

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