ROMA-NeT II | BASELINE

Roma-NeT II' offers an opportunity for partners to build on previous experience to find new and innovative ways to develop a deeper understanding of and create capacity and know-how for cities in tackling Roma integration.

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Ann Morton Hyde
Lead Expert
ROMA-NET II
With cooperation and help from the city partners and other information sources.

INTRODUCTION

The Roma-NeT Action Planning Stage; which took place with nine partners over a three year period from 2010-2013; proved an invaluable learning experience for all partners. This project consolidated the importance of cities in dealing with Roma Integration and played its part in pushing Roma policies further up the list of priorities for senior policy-makers and governmental organisations. In fact, since Roma-NeT began, a number of policy changes have developed; even though the situation and living conditions for many Roma in Europe has not.

Specifically, while partner cities developed Local Action Plans (LAPs) in partnership with their own key stakeholders, there was an apparent push at EU level to highlight the disparities between Roma communities and others in EU Member States. This was evidenced through the demand for and creation of National Roma Integration Strategies, research now being undertaken by the Fundamental Rights Agency and partnerships that have grown in Roma specific projects such as ROMACT.

The Roma-NeT Action Planning Stage was not solely responsible for these positive changes in policy-making, but it certainly contributed in its own way. From the outset, partners understood the importance of communicating the project findings to the right people in the right places to further influence the Roma Integration agenda.

Six partners: Almeria, Bologna, Budapest, Glasgow, Nagykallo and Torrent; have agreed to continue their journey as part of the Pilot Development project of Roma-Net- Roma-NeT II. They have not only found the Action Planning Stage beneficial, but have continued to use the tools they learned about to develop and action their LAPs in the interim period between each phase. 'Roma-NeT II' offers an opportunity for partners to build on that work and find new and innovative ways to develop a deeper understanding of and create capacity and know-how for cities in tackling Roma integration.

WHY IS ROMA INTEGRATION IMPORTANT IN THE EU?

It is nowadays well-recorded in the policy areas that the Roma population across Europe is estimated to be between 10-12 million and remains the biggest group of people to be living in unacceptable poverty and with extensive discrimination.

This is not a new problem, but the recent and serious interest at policy level in how to change the situation is. For decades, the desperate situation of Roma has not been dealt with and has largely been ignored at both policy and operational level.

Historically, where projects and programmes of work have been implemented on the ground, all too often they have created and encouraged a segregated approach to housing, education, healthcare and employment. For the most part, this has further removed the possibility of any new opportunities for Roma to become integrated with the wider community and has led to further discrimination across all of these key thematic areas.

Since the fall of communism over 20 years ago across much of Eastern Europe, the situation of Roma has deteriorated even further. The economic crisis has also provided ample opportunities for Western and Eastern European citizens to use Roma as a scapegoat as migration patterns change. A new and increased freedom of movement has contributed to a heightened sense of xenophobia in many European cities.

In many cities and towns, Roma still live in segregated housing, ghettoised from the wider population. With no access to utilities or other services their poverty is dramatic and disturbing – particularly in a 21st century Europe.

Discrimination starts in education and leads to systemic exclusion from anything other than low-skilled employment in the labour market. Roma women are discriminated against both due to gender and race. Conversely, this lack of engagement of working-age Roma means that EU Member States are missing out on a crucial contribution to the development of their economy, as the Roma population represents a sizeable share of the working age population of some Member States.

The movement of more Roma to Western European countries is a significant factor in highlighting Roma integration policy in the EU. It is this push and pull factor that has meant more Member States have taken an interest in this policy area and; although appalled at the continued living conditions of Roma in some new Member States; have had to look at their own social inclusion practices and ways to create access to public services for all in their societies.

It has taken significant effort and time by Roma activists, NGOs and civil society to begin the creation of a policy environment where Roma integration is not just highlighted but prioritised. More Member States and policy-makers need to take time to fully engage and to understand the complex nature of integrating Roma and capitalising on the strengths that this heterogeneous population will bring to the wider communities in which they live. The gap between policy and what is being implemented on the ground needs to be shortened if making a difference to real people's lives is to happen.

GENERAL CONTEXT

Since 2005 when the Decade of Roma Inclusion was announced there have been significant developments in the policy arena around Roma inclusion policy. Operationally though, there is little evidence of real change in most areas. Some good practice is emerging that appears to be have a positive impact on the lives of many Roma, but changing the lives of the 10-12 million people who have been actively discriminated against for centuries, has to be part of a long-term plan.

In 2008, the first EU-held Roma summit produced the 10 Common Basic Principles to address Roma inclusion. These are a guide to countries and institutions in how to design and implement new policies and activities.

This was followed by EU communications to Member States on the social and economic integration of Roma. These communication reminded Member States of their special responsibility towards Roma who live in all Member States, candidate countries and potential candidate countries.

In 2010, the European Commission established an Internal Task Force to assess how Member States used EU funding in relation to the social and economic inclusion of Roma.

A key policy turning point was when the EU communicated to Member States its proposal for an EU Framework linking National Roma Inclusion Strategies to the process and goals of Europe 2020. This showed the EU's intention that Roma integration would be a cornerstone in future policy-making; and therefore funding; to Member States. All Member States were required to develop their own targeted and integrated approach to the specific themes of education, health, housing and employment in 2011.

During the Roma-Net Action Planning Stage, the policy context for Member States developed further. In 2012, the European Commission's 'National Roma Integration Strategies: A First Step in the Implementation of the EU Framework", provided an assessment of all 27 strategies provided by Member States along with a set of policy recommendations that member states were expected to address in order to meet their special responsibilities towards Roma and towards the goals of Europe 2020.

The most recent EU guidance on ex-ante conditionalities for European Structural and Investment (ESI) funds sets out the thematic ex-ante conditionalities that apply, including a condition referring to Roma Inclusion (A10-2). It allows for ESF and ERDF investment in 'integration of marginalised Roma communities' and the ex-ante conditionality is that 'a national Roma inclusion strategic policy framework is in place that, in summary:

(i)   sets achievable national goals for Roma integration to bridge the gap with the general population across ll thematic areas.

(ii)   identifies disadvantaged micro-regions or segregated neighbourhoods, where communities are most deprived

(iii)   includes strong monitoring methods to evaluate the impact of Roma integration actions.

(iv)   is designed, implemented and monitored in close cooperation and continuous dialogue with Roma civil society, regional and local authorities.

The most recent information about EU Structural Funds suggests that every Member State should have Roma Inclusion priorities in their Partnership Agreement for the 2014-202 programming period. This change should bring significnt opportunitites and increased access to resources. The challege for cities is to turn those opporunties into concreate programmes that actually reach, and start to deliver better qualities of life in local Roma communitiies.

THE STATE OF THE ART

The EU's Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)has published many reports in recent years including 'The Situation of Roma in 11 Members States'. Their in-depth understanding of the situation and realisation that very little has changed for the better for Roma in the last 10 years, has resulted in their developing a multi-annual Roma Programme reaching from 2012 to 2020. It will allow the agency to make regular reports on progress made and provide evidence-based advice to the EU institutions and Member States based on data systematically collected across the EU.

The FRA has also published several significant reports such as 'The Situation of Roma EU Citizens moving to and settling in other EU Member States' and a report into 'Housing Conditions of Roma and Travellers in the EU'. These reports combined with extensive policy and operational programmes covered by the Roma Education Fund and other key NGOs are changing the dialogue with policy-makers and will influence local authorities significantly in how they tackle Roma exclusion.

Recently the European Commission proposed that:

"Member States should ensure that appropriate measures are taken to include Roma integration as a priority in the Partnership Agreements on the use of European Structural and Investment (ESI) funds for the period 2014–2020, taking into account the size and poverty rates of the Roma communities and the gap between Roma and non-Roma".

There is certainly plenty of emerging and potentially good practice to draw on for local authorities. But without the political will and resources required, it remains

a challenge to achieve full integration. Roma exclusion is not a short-term issue to resolve, nor does it stem from only one root. The multi-faceted drivers of Roma exclusion; which have permeated European society through decades of institutionalised discrimination; must now be considered jointly under an integrated area approach. New Partnership Agreements in the new EU programming period 2014-2020 will expect this.

Local municipalities play the most significant part in bridging the gap between national policy and those working at grassroots level. However, local authorities may feel overburdened with this responsibility as many lack the capacity and know-how to have genuine leadership and understanding in this role. Working transnationally, in programmes such as the Pilot Development Project of Roma-Net - Roma-NeT II, is a good start at building that capacity and intelligence and being in a position to share with other municipalities in the future.

With this new, clear steer from the EU in the new programming period, the role of municipalities will be critical in driving the integrated area based approach and in ensuring that stakeholders working across the different themes of Roma exclusion can be brought together. The LSG approach continued by most partners from the Roma-NeT Action Planning Stage is one way to exchange practice and learning and create innovative, joined-up thinking that cuts through all themes in an integrated, community-led partnership approach.

Bringing local authorities to the table; and encouraging their own partnership approaches with key stakeholders across public, private and third sector organisations; is the how the Pilot Development Project of Roma-Net - Roma-NeT II could bring genuine change to a complex and critical situation. The possibility of significant EU resources in the next programming round in the shape of European Social and European Regional Development Fund in MS shows that policy-makers are serious about making change happen. So for partners in the new Pilot Development Project of Roma-NeT – Roma NeT II, there are some very exciting new opportunities to get ready for.

Emerging practice - the integrated approach

The integrated area based approach for now, remains a huge challenge in countries where segregated services have so far been their answer to dealing with Roma communities. But it must start somewhere.

The most innovative and exciting example of this integrated approach may well come from the new Roma Alliance of Cities and Regions for Roma Inclusion which was set up in March 2013 by the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities with the support of Special Representative of the Secretary General for Roma Issues. More than 120 cities and regions from over 27 countries are participating in the Alliance.

As part of this Alliance, two key programmes of work are being rolled out:

- ROMACT is a joint initiative of the Council of Europe and the European Commission, implemented with the support of the European Alliance of Cities and Regions for Roma Inclusion to promote the inclusion of Roma at local and regional level. This initiative will build capacity of local and regional authorities (targeting both elected officials and senior civil servants, but also in the middle/long term Roma population and the population of pilot municipalities at large) to develop and implement plans and projects for Roma inclusion. The ROMACT Programme works on building local level political commitment and the capacity of policy development.

- ROMED2 is a second phase programme of work supported through the Alliance. The first phase of ROMED took place in 22 countries and trained over 1000 Roma mediators to help other Roma access services in health, education and employment. This second phase will work alongside ROMACT to focus on the community and their participation in democratic governance through mediation.

Because both ROMACT and ROMED2 programmes are working together, the outcome will be that these programmes work on both Roma citizens' ability to participate and the authority's ability to respond.

Additionally, the Atlas of Roma Communities in Slovakia provides an interesting case study.   The project was financed by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family in Slovakia within the framework of the cost-sharing program between UNDP and the Ministry. The Atlas was published in September 2013.

The data in the Atlas has been produced to ensure that Slovakia meets the ex-ante conditionality for distribution of the EU funds for 2014-2020 programming period.

Comprehensive data was collected in segregated settlements; settlements on the edge of town/village; Settlement (residential concentrations) inside the town/village; Roma living dispersed among majority population (estimates); Information on the village/town with presence of Roma settlements.

The Atlas provides detailed information about the number and type of dwellings; access to water and sewage systems; access to social and health services; and roads leading to settlements. The information was collected through a detailed questionnaire. The information is supported by digital maps plotting all localities across Slovakia.

This comprehensive Atlas leaves the Government of Slovakia in no doubt about the scale of investment and the level of future action required to improve the living conditions of Roma living in their country. Working at local authority level

will be a critical part of the success of this project. This is a model that has some potential to be of transferred across to map and enhance information about the localities with the highest Roma population in ROMA-Net II cities.

Since the Roma-NeT Action Planning Stage, it has become accepted that European cities and urban areas could have the most impact towards implementing Roma integration policies and practices. As such the role of Eurocities has also become significant and they have now set up a Roma inclusion task force.

They are committed to fighting discrimination and exploitation and fostering the inclusion of Europe's biggest minority through the exchange of experiences between cities and raising awareness of cities' importance within in the EU framework and national Roma inclusion strategies.

EMERGING PRACTICE ACROSS THEMATIC AREAS

The partners involved in Pilot Development Project of Roma-Net - Roma-NeT II can learn much from emerging practice in the integrated approach but also from recent practice across the key themes of Roma exclusion.

EDUCATION

The Roma Education Fund (REF) funds extensively a range of projects and programmes that work towards integration of Roma in educational establishments and to give opportunities to those who have occasionally made it through secondary school.   A dedicated fund like REF can have real impact in one area whilst keeping connections to other themes. Education is also at the heart of much that should be done to make change happen.

A good education leads to better employment prospects, and a real route of poverty not just for one individual but potentially for their entire family. This in turn creates positive roles models for others and opportunities being thought possible that might not have been considered previously.

As with many significant funding pots, not all REF projects may have completely fulfilled all of their original goals, but the sheer turnover of these projects concentrated in education means that lessons can be learned quickly and new and improved projects can be created out of them.

HEALTH

An interagency programme has been set up to promote the right to health of the Roma population, particularly Roma children and women. The initiative delivers on the commitment to promote health equality and focus attention on the most

disadvantaged population groups at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly (September 2010).

The initiative focuses on the twelve countries currently taking part in the Decade of Roma Inclusion, namely Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Some additional countries may also be included in the future. The key partners are the WHO, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UNDP, UNICEF, and International Organization for Migration (IOM).

The initiative applies the principle of explicit but not exclusive targeting, which implies focusing on socially disadvantaged Roma as a target group but not to the exclusion of other populations or groups experiencing poverty and social exclusion. It will engage Roma and other civil society partners as active partners and build the capacity of partnering agencies to address Roma health through coordinated action.

HOUSING

It still appears that the examples that come from the Spanish partners in RomaNet, Almeria and Torrent, provide some of the best examples of integrated housing initiatives. Beyond that it is difficult to find any positive examples especially outside Spain. iven the scale of the housing problem for Roma this is really quite extraordinary. Many Roma communities are still fully segregated from the wider community in ghettoised slums. The conditions they live in are appalling. Persuading some municipalities that integrated living is the answer still remains a difficult discussion when such a strong institutionalised hatred of Roma exists in some European cities.

Although not recent examples, some of the better case studies of developing better housing for Roma are in Spain. Initial slum clearances were often badly implemented and had mixed results. However, more recent and long-term effort has reduced the percentage of Roma living in sub-standard housing from 31 percent to around 11 percent during the last two decades.

In Madrid, The Rehousing and Social Integration Institute purchases units on the second-hand housing market, renovates them and then rents them out to the families participating in the program. This programme works closely with the Roma families involved to make the move as smooth as possible and offers other support.

EMPLOYMENT

The FRA's survey ' The Situation of Roma in 11 Member States' found that over 65% of working-age Roma are unemployed. This lies at the heart of much of the poverty and feeds discrimination from others.

The European Social Fund (ESF) which is available in many of the countries where Roma are most badly affected by high-levels of unemployment; is available to extend employment opportunities, invest in jobs and skills, and create a skilled and adaptable workforce. But ESF is best used for large-scale programmes and not for small-scale local projects. Many of the larger programmes provide training and access to low-skilled labour and very often they do not reach out-of- work Roma living in segregated areas. It is clear that these programmes often follow similar patterns and that employability projects do require more innovation to have a bigger impact.

One of the most successful programmes to create training and jobs for Roma, and other disadvantaged groups, is the Acceder programme in Spain. Following regional pilots programmes it has now become a national programme and has been successful in offering an integrated approach for Roma and other disadvantaged groups routes to employment. Since its inception in 2000, it has supported 200,000 Roma into jobs.

Jobs and Business Glasgow (UK) run a similar set of programs to create a supported pathway to employment for new arrival Roma in Glasgow, funded jointly by ESF and local authority funding.[1] The project provides pre-employment labour market guidance; followed by skills training for work, then on to paid employment to build skills and to prepare for a move to the real labour market. Several Roma are also employed within the organisation, graduating from training schemes and helping others in a similar situation.

In the Czech Republic, an innovative localized partnership programme is being run by the NGO, IQ Roma Servis in Břeclav Municipality. The project works with the local municipality, Labor Office, Schools, Libraries and crucially with employers as well as with the local disadvantaged community of Roma. It involved a 'bigger picture' approach towards social inclusion, key components of which are education and employment.

THE CITY PROFILES

The following section of the report provides and explanation and update about the situation in each of the ROMA-NeT II partner cites. The information was compiled by each city to provide a snapshot about the local context at the start of the delivery pilot phase.

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[1] http://www.jbg.org.uk/roma-project/

The information provides a short description of Local Action Plan developed within the previous phase of ROMA-NeT. It explains the political and strategic context towards Roma Inclusions in your city , regional and national levels. Articulates what progress has been made on LAP delivery since the end of the previous ROMA-NeT. The information is presented in alphabetical order; Almeria; Bologna; Budapest; Glasgow; Nagykallo and Torrent

THE CITY OF ALMERIA

BACKGROUND INFORMATION	
Pilot Delivery Network Title	*ROMA-NeT*
Partner City	*Almeria Municipality*
Member State	*Spain, Andalusia*
Geographic size	With a population of a 192.697 inhabitants in 2013 and an average of 10,6% of foreign population, the city of Almeria is located in a peripheral and marginal context compared to the rest of the country and the region Andalusia, this for the lack of an effective management of its wide ethnic groups presence. According to a statistic study conducted by the main Spanish association working with Roma people (Fundación Secretariado Gitano, please read the section below), the Roma population in the province of Almeria was 30.000 in 2009, while the city itself counted around one third of it, which was 10.000 in the same year.
Key Contact person	*MARIA DEL MAR GARCIA SEGURA*
Keywords/Tags	Roma, Inclusion, Exclusion, Discrimination, Social, Community, Measures, Policies.

1. DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL ACTION PLAN DEVELOPED WITHIN THE URBACT NETWORK	
Policy challenge	In Almeria Municipality, specific measures addressed to ROMA People, are seen as some kind of "privilege" and do not count with popular support. The solution would be finding a way to continue implementing the LAP without facing public opposition, including also other disadvantaged groups. Improving the quality of life of its resident citizens, the social integration of the many foreigners every year and the equality of social treatment for its immigrants is of course Almeria's main challenge. Ethnographically speaking, the Roma population living in this town has been an object of study since the 60s. But only in recent decades and because of the increasing cultural relevance of this ethnic group, local policy-makers have added the topic into their agenda. The city counts on a Fundación Secretariado Gitano, a 30 years old association of more than 800 people working together for the support of Roma people rights and its intercultural development and integration. It's relevance comes from its constant dialogue with the local institutions to identify the main threats the Roma population has to face: **Lack of Employment, social and labour insertion pattern**: they are not available and updated local statistics about Roma people and unemployment, anyway the main working activities of this ethnic group consists of low-skilled, irregular or occasional small jobs in which people of all the ages participate. As the main results: school dropout, poverty and insecurity.

	Basic schooling, access to primary education and education equality, fight against early school leave: social studies and reviews reflected the attitude of the less educated Roma young people to suffer for discrimination, thus the commitment of the city council in finding ways to avoid kids dropping out of schools. **Social exclusion to be reduced through awareness raising campaigns among the city population and research studies**: often Roma people are victimised, excluded and prejudiced from the local population **Skills building of Roma young people**: introducing or improving the use of new technologies, computer and internet for a better social integration and a successful job research. Only a small portion of the young population is able to access or possesses knowledge about basic computer tools. **Affordable and basic housing**: As for the mutual relation among all the previous threats, Almeria often experienced situations in which its citizens feel "bothered" by having a Roma neighbour. Thus and since the increase of housing prices, Roma people used to live with basic housing, in overcrowded apartments and in the most marginalized districts of the town like the barrios of Pescadería, La Chanca, Los Almendros, El Puche and La Fuentecica. Attitudes have been advanced by local policy-makers statements' about the provision of better quality, properly furnished social community housing for Roma.
Main objectives and expected results	Main objectives of Almeria LAP: 1. To confront the discrimination in all aspects: change the image of the Roma minority in civil society 2. To promote pre-school, primary and secondary education and education for adults between Roma minority and improvement of teaching staff awareness about Roma issues (pilot project with 6 schools) 3. To facilitate the access for Roma minority to labor market, proportion of self-employment opportunities 4. To promote access of Roma to quality housing 5. Improvement of the access and use of health services for Roma community Main expected results of Almeria LAP: 1) Joint Communication Strategy on Roma issue 2) Thematic training session for the stakeholders - public servants, social educators, teachers, healthcare employees etc 3) Informational sessions in media on Roma issue 4) Code of conduct for public sector, NGOs and Media 5) Parents School Programme 6) Representative parent comities 7) School Internal Campaigns: links between family and teacher 8) 2 transitional programs for primary and secondary schools 9) Annual dissemination events about the grant programmes aimed to facilitate Roma youth access to university 10) 6 Training courses for education professionals (reduction of cultural gap)

	11) Preparation of 6 application forms for pilot projects within the Comenius programme
	12) Pre-training programme for Roma
	13) Training courses for Roma future professionals
	14) Basic course for the ICT skills development
	15) Validations of non-legal working experience
	16) Introduction of labor integration itineraries
	17) Awareness campaigns about available financial sources for entrepreneurship (self-employment concept)
	18) Minimum 3 pilot projects for labor integration promoted by NGOs and supported by local authority under the ESF financial framework
	19) Housing offer growth due to implementation of URBAN programme
	20) Implantation of initiative on public management of private housing
	21) Supportive partnership between NGOs and local authority on housing topics for vulnerable groups
	22) Delivery of specific information tools offered by State Housing Plan
	23) Specific training addressed to Roma on use and maintenance of housing
	24) Culturally adapted awareness materials on health topic for Roma
	25) Awareness campaigns for healthy lifestyle promotion since childhood
	26) Improvement of monitoring of health risk-factors
	27) Engagement of Roma in design of all the activities planned within the LAP
Main Activities foreseen	The LAP activities are as follows: 1. Design of communication strategy jointly with NGOs and its implementation through their networks focusing at Roma minority as any other member of society should have the same opportunities and benefit from all the available welfare 2. Develop training sessions aimed at public servants who can play a special role in the fight against discrimination 3. Organization of information sessions for media about Roma reality and relevance of the communication recourses for the perception of this minority 4. Design and promotion of awareness campaigns for the general population about the Roma ethnic minority (including cases of success) 5. Informational campaigns in order to encourage Roma people to get involved into a public activities sphere (special focus on active Roma women) 6. Promotion of the Code of Conduct between public administrations. Media and NGOs for the ethnic minority image protection. 7. Creating a program for a Parents School in order to encourage participation of families at school. 8. Integration of Roma families into Parents' Associations: involvement of social workers and teachers

9. Design of school internal campaigns for building a trustful relationship between teachers and parents in order to to reduce truancy and early drop-out
10. Design and introduction of the 2 programmes (pilot action) for the transition from primary to secondary education and from secondary education to vocational training and/or university for vulnerable groups (including Roma)
11. Dissemination of grant programmes supported by non-profit or private institutions to facilitate the access of Roma youth to university.
12. Promote Adult Education Centers in order to improve the educational level of Roma
13. Training for teachers and educators on Roma topic: reduction of the gaps through cultural particularities awareness
14. Identify and disseminate good practices related to school success among Roma students – bilateral study visits between European schools (Comenius programme)
15. Carry out Roma tailored pre-training activities to facilitate the access of the Roma population to normalized employment training programmes
16. Develop specific training course for future professionals addressed to Roma people at risk of exclusion
17. To address the digital literacy of the Roma population as a cross-sectional issue that facilitates the improvement of their employability – introduction of ICT element within all training programmes
18. Inform Roma on the obtainment of academic degrees and professional certificates to validate their working experience and informal training
19. Implement personalized labor integration itineraries with a gender perspective
20. Awareness campaigns about to micro-credits and other financing possibilities for self-employment
21. Pilot projects for labor integration submitted under the Operational Programme to Combat Discrimination 2007-2013, funded by the ESF and managed by social action NGOs
22. Stimulation of public housing offer for Roma families through URBAN programme
23. Home renovation grant programmes, mediation programmes on access and assignment of private housing for public management with regard to Roma families
24. Administrative support NGOs in their implementation of housing programmes in favour of Roma families experiencing exclusion
25. Enable specific information tools aimed at the Roma population within the citizen information actions provided for by the State Housing Plan
26. Set up a programme of comprehensive intervention in the rehousing process to promote training on the use and maintenance of housing, occupation and the use of community, educational services and monitoring
27. Specific training for the professionals who work in healthcare services

	28. Culturally adapt training materials and information and awareness-raising campaigns on health topic
	29. Develop communication and dissemination plans on health inequalities in the Roma community
	30. Develop specific interventions to promote health in childhood with evidence-based effectiveness (home visits, etc.)
	31. Improve the monitoring of cardiovascular risk factors, prioritising control of hypertension, cholesterol, overweight, obesity and diabetes
	32. Participation of the Roma population and their associations in the design, development and evaluation of the actions aimed at reducing health inequalities.
Funding/ resources	The Municipal public budget
Managing Authority (MA – if relevant)	Managing authorities such as regional government, national ministries and JTS of the relevant EU programs
Timeframe	
Stakeholders	Local level: Almeria Municipality

2. POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC CONTEXT

2.1 National and regional framework	Roma people have been present in Spain since the 15th century, and, as in the rest of Europe, their history has been marked by persecution, attempts at adaptation, and phases of social exclusion. It is estimated that 650.000 to 800.000 Roma live in Spain. In spite of the limitations in determining the total scale of the Roma population in Spain, it is accurately known that the Roma people are distributed across the national territory, with a most concentrated presence in Andalusia, where around 40% of Spanish Roma resides. In Spain the Roma profile is diverse; it is a common error to associate a given ethnic group to situations of material deprivation, social exclusion or self-exclusion. Many Roma people enjoy medium to high socio-economic levels and are fully integrated into society. However a minority sector exists, comprising the severely excluded who have seen little progress in terms of their social inclusion. It must be taken into consideration that the current negative economic climate and deterioration of employment in Spain is taking hold throughout the general population, but particularly so for socially vulnerable population groups
2.2 The planning context at city level	The region of Andalusia bases its work with the Roma community thanks to the support of the **Secretary for the Roma Community of the Regional Government of Andalusia**. It has been the first body of Spain created to work in the field and it is been working in it for 25 years. In 1994, the Council of Labour and Social Affairs proposed a **Plan Integral para la Comunidad Gitana**, a Plan for the promotion of Roma people as a community deserving further efforts by the Public Administration. The main objectives of this Plan are: a) **Integral promotion** of the Roma community, **prevention and removal of marginalization causes**; b) **Capitalization of the existing resources** for a better impacto n the community; c) Enhancing the **active participation** of the community in the

	development of its social, educational and political life;
	d) Awareness raising through **public policies for the interethnic coexistence** and the elimination of stereotypes for a better understanding and respect.
	e) Stimulation of the **standardised use of the different public and social protection systems**, improving the social orientation of the Roma citizens.
	The Plan coordinating body instituted, for the best implementation of these objectives, an Evaluation and Follow-up Commission working in the following different areas:
	A) Housing B) Education C) Training and Employment D) Sanity E) Culture F) Social Action G) Woman

3. LAP DELIVERY PROGRESS SINCE THE END OF THE URBACT NETWORK (Feb 2013)	
3.1 FUNDING/ RESOURCING	Yes. From Municipal, regional and European Union Funding We believe that participation in the pilot delivery phase of ROMA-NeT, we will eventually receiving further funding.
3.2 GOVERNANCE: PARTNERSHIP, PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT	Minor changes have been done in LSG since the first phase of Roma-Net project. Its structure consists of: ALMERIA CITY COUNCIL, Maria del mar Garcia Segura, Engineer, Mayor's Office ALMERIA CITY COUNCIL, Pilar Ortega Martinez, Councillor, Mayor's Office and Institutional Relationships Department ALMERIA CITY COUNCIL, Jose Antonio Camacho Olmed , Chief of Mayor's Office amd the Local Executive Board ALMERIA CITY COUNCIL, Arantzazu Martin Moya , Councillor of the Social Affaires and Equal Opportunities Department ALMERIA CITY COUNCIL, Jose Maria Tortosa Marin, Technical Section of the Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities Department ALMERIA CITY COUNCIL, Francisco Javier Cruz Mañas, Chief of the Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities Department PUBLIC ORGANIZATION ALMERIA URBAN, Pablo Garcia-Pellicer Lopez, Architect, Responsible of inclusion/insertion itineraries of the URBAN INITIATIVE Plan-ERDF (2007-2013) for the Regeneration of the Historic Centre of Almeria MUNICIPAL NEIGHBORS COMMITEE, Citizen Participation F.S.G. FUNDACIÓN SECRETARIADO GITANO, Dolores Ramon Alonso, Social Educador ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LOS ALMENDROS, Carmen Mora Garrido, Directress WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF FISH MARKET NUESTRA SEÑORA DE BELEN, Josefa Torres Torres, President F.A.C.C.A. FEDERATION OF CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF

	ANDALUSIA, Marisol Santos Leal, Social Educator
	CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION CONSTRUIMOS NUESTRO FUTURO (we build our future)-PARTNER ENTITY WITH DIOCESAN CARITAS, Antoliano Pedrosa Gonzalez, Father Augustine (Jesuit Order)
	F.A.G.A. ANDALUSIAN FEDERATION OF GYPSIES OF ALMERIA, Juan Torres Torres, President
	NEIGBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION OF ROQUE-PESCADERIA, Luis Delgado Tapia, President
	F.E.C.O.A.M. PROVINCIAL FEDERATION OF ALMERIA STREET TRADERS, Rogelio Gomez Sanchez, President
	PRIVATE SECTOR, Ramon De Torres Lopez, Architect, Expert housing and social integration plans PRIVATE SECTOR, Maria del mar Verdejo Coto, Technical landscaper, Experience in social integration plans
	How is the integrated approach applied to all areas of local service delivery? Through a process of coordination and feedback. *Does the partner have new governance arrangements in place for integrated plans?* No. *Are there cross departmental teams/communications?* Yes. *Are there cross agency teams /communications?* No.
	Has political support been maintained? (e.g. Mayor or deputy mayor or director level official actively involved) Yes. Especially from the Mayor/President, the Mayor's administration and social services.
3.3 MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM	*Is any procedure in place to monitor LAP related actions?* Through coordination and follow-up meetings for each project and activity. We use an evaluation system with quantitative indicators (number of people involved in each activity, number of people in the initial phase, number of people in the final phase, percentage of Roma involved in each activity, number of involved associations, number of coordination meetings, etc.). A qualitative system is also applied: satisfaction level of the population that implements the actions, the degree of influence of the tested changes, etc.
3.4 CAPACITY	An adequate level of specialization, empathy and advanced knowledge of the tools and instruments needed to efficiently realize integrated services. *Has the city been able to recruit and/or procure effectively?* Yes, but with significant limitations due to austerity measures taken by the central government, which have affected all public administrations in their ability to hire additional staff. *What are the training needs of city staff delivering integrated action plans?* Training in skills that allow for the efficient realization of the action plans (e.g., planning, budgeting, logistics, management, etc.) *What are the training needs of stakeholders especially those on the*

	LAP? Increase training directed towards interventions and actions regarding the Roma population. *How are these being addressed?* By firmly requesting that this type of specialized training be included in local training plans.
3.5 COMMUNICATIONS	Through professional exchanges and communication, traditional media and social media: Almeria´s Municipality has an Office of Communication and Dissemination (Media Office), that has the following functions: - production of plans of communication and marketing - press releases - management of interviews, articles organization of press conferences and local events - Production of 'pressbook' and newsletters - Photography - Internal Communication - The mayor, means the Office of Communication, has a profile in Facebook where his main municipal actions and his opinion are reported - Municipal television (Interalmería TV) Besides this, we will reach the media at local, regional and national level: LOCAL PRESS • La Voz de Almería • IDEAL • Diario de Almería • Casco Histórico • Aula Magna (Universitary newspaper) NATIONAL/REGIONAL PRESS • El Mundo (Almería) • El País (Almería) Press Agency: EFE and Europa Press *At local level and beyond?* At local, provincial, regional and European levels. *Does your city face challenges when communicating LAP progress?* The stigmatization of certain groups that we try to mitigate through improved communication about our plans/actions and through increased participation among all members of Almería's society.
3.6 CHALLENGES	The most significant challenge is the lack of personnel, as previously described. To optimize our human and economic resources.
3.7 DRIVERS	Strong coordination and a collaborative environment among all professionals involved (social services administration and on-the-ground centers, the Mayor's office, etc.) including social actors and corresponding politicians.

4 PERSPECTIVES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR THE DELIVERY NETWORK PHASE	
4.1 PARTNER EXPECTATIONS	Almeria´s Municipality purpose of participating in this project is maintaining the networking activities that started in the previous Roma-Net implementation phase, in order to continue the best practices exchange at transnational level.

	How will participation enhance delivery of the LAP? If in the previous Roma Net, the implementation phase the partners and local and regional stakeholders (LSGs) have had the chance to learn how to create a strong LAP for Roma inclusion and about the need for a step by step integrated approach, in this second phase of delivery of the LAP, together they will have the opportunity to build project management capacity and review local operational structure to ensure future implementation. *Describe any specific indicators/targets to measure progress:* *Creation of new governance mechanisms* *Increased participation of stakeholders*
4.2 MEASURING ACHIEVEMENTS	*How will you measure achievements at local level?* The identification of outcome targets and performance indicators is essential to monitor success of the LAP implementation. The first step to improve the quality of the project is through the goals settled, directly aligned with project deliverables, WPs deliverables. *Can you think of any indicators that could be used to measure progress? (Include baseline and target values).* Survey dataset collection. Achieving results within: employment, education, housing, health, etc . This approach is tailored to the specific conditions of measurement of Roma integration.
5. FURTHER INFORMATION	
Bibliography	***http://www.msssi.gob.es/ssi/familiasInfancia/inclusionSocial/poblacionGitana/docs/diagnosticosocial_autores.pdf*** ***http://www.gitanos.org/publicaciones/memoria09Andalucia/informeAndalucia/ComGitAndaluza.pdf*** ***http://www.protocoloalmeria.eu/images/descargas/mesa_redonda_urban.pdf***

THE CITY OF BOLOGNA

BACKGROUND INFORMATION	
Pilot Delivery Network Title	ROMA-NeT
Partner City	Bologna Municipality
Member State	Emilia-Romagna Region - Italy
Geographic size	Bologna Population: 384.202 Metropolitan area around 1 million inhabitants Bologna has both settled Roma and Sinti populations and recent influx of migrant Roma from other EU Member State countries.
Key Contact person	Manuela Marsano
Keywords/Tags	Roma, Inclusion, Exclusion, Discrimination, Housing, stereotypes, culture, education, Job, Rights and Duties

1. DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL ACTION PLAN DEVELOPED WITHIN THE URBACT NETWORK	
Policy challenge	As described in the LAP, the main policy challenge is to Remove the topics linked to the social inclusion of Roma and Sinti groups from the emergency and special approach that was traditionally used to 'manage them'. This means bringing a new level of general policies that take into consideration the people as citizens and as human beings, without considering any other attribution of identity. One of the goals that the Local Action Plan proposes is to accompany the design of local policies from their form as special policies to that of policies that can keep together a general approach and an attention to diversity.
Main objectives and expected results	**Objective 1** **Enhancing local system's capacity to produce policies for the social inclusion of Roma and Sinti groups** **Objective 2** **Increasing the level of participation of Roma and Sinti groups in elaborating dedicated intervention policies and in decisional processes**
Main Activities foreseen	Action 1.1 Establishment of a Committee for the Social Inclusion of Roma and Sinti groups Action 1.2 Establishment of thematic working groups dedicated to the development of interventions for social inclusion Action 1.3 Establishment of an Observatory on the social inclusion policies of Roma and Sinti groups Action 1.4 Conducting thematic workshops for the members of the Committee Action 2.1 Developing training actions in support of associative networks and other active participation instruments for Roma and Sinti groups Action 2.2 Developing participated design and evaluation actions conducted by Roma and Sinti groups on the interventions of which they are beneficiaries and target groups
Funding/ resources	The resources needed to implement the LAP come from various

	sources: local, regional, national and European funds.
	Bologna Municipality is already involved in an European Project (RomaMatrix), on the topic of fighting against stereotypes and discrimination and a national project about integration of Roma and Sinti children in school.
	The Municipality provides some local funds for: Housing, legal settlements and monitoring.
Managing Authority (MA – if relevant)	Serenella Sandri - Emilia Romagna Region Planning, evaluation and regional intervention Service; inter-institutional coordination for ESF program
Timeframe	We consider the LAP as a mid term strategy. It has been fully approved by the political board in January 2014. The political commitment is until May 2016 (end of the present political mandate), but we consider that the time frame for the full realisation will be around 5/7 years.
Stakeholders	Various Municipality departments and the representative of the districts where the legal settlements are located, Province and Region, third sector involved in Roma and Sinti issue, representative of the target group (Roma and Sinti population)
2. POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC CONTEXT	
2.1 National and regional framework	*EUROPEAN.* **NATIONAL**: In February 2012, the Italian Government has issued the National Strategy for the Inclusion of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti, elaborated by for the fulfillment of the Communication of the European Commission n. 173 from 05.04.2011 "EU framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020". *http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/files/roma_italy_strategy_it.pdf* **REGIONAL:** it is ongoing the preparation of the new regional law, in which the representative of Bologna Municipality is actively participating **LOCAL:** the political board has formally approved the LAP in February 2014. Since then, the ROMA-Net LAP is considered as a strategic tool for planning interventions, services and policies.
2.2 The planning context at city level	Emilia Romagna Region, along with the definition of the new regional law (in which Bologna Municipality is directly involved) is also defining the regional strategy for Roma and Sinti people. This will take into consideration the national mentioned strategy.
3. LAP DELIVERY PROGRESS SINCE THE END OF THE URBACT NETWORK (Feb 2013)	
3.1 FUNDING/ RESOURCING	From February 2013 some of the actions of the LAP have been funded: Roma MATRIX is a European project that aims to combat racism, intolerance and xenophobia towards Roma and to increase integration, though a programme of action across Europe http://www.migrationyorkshire.org.uk/?page=roma-matrix Bologna Municipality receives a co-funding of 93.672€ **Axis 1. Education -** **Axis 4. Interculture and anti-discrimination** National project, funded by the Ministry of Job and Social Policies (law 285/1997), Progetto nazionale per l'inclusione e l'integrazione dei bambini Rom Sinti e Camminanti (National project for inclusion and integration of Roma and Sinti children). Bologna Municipality receives a co-funding of 48.500€

	Axis 1. Education - **Axis 4. Interculture and anti-discrimination**
	Implementation of a programme of public housing for transition periods (from 24 up to 48 months) for all.
	Axis 3. Housing We will apply for new project at European, Regional and National level
3.2 GOVERNANCE: PARTNERSHIP, PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT	The LSG has been maintained and kept alive, even after the end of Roma Net project. It has become a permanent forum, even thanks to EU funds (it is required even for Roma MATRIX project). It is a "place" where many dedicated policies come from and where all of them are validated. After the end of RomaNet project, at institutional level, the province has become an important stakeholder, in view of the enlargement of Bologna Municipality (as it will become metropolitan city, taking part of territorial competence of the province). During the realization of events/conferences/activities we met association, people (Roma and non Roma) and artists, who are really committed in Roma and Sinti issues and have asked to take part to the LSG and to participate to the planning of local activities in this field. The LSG is managed through various channels: Regular and formal meetings Informal meetings Social networks Events Mailing Web sites
	How is the integrated approach applied to all areas of local service delivery? **In the LAP is described the local governance and the system's actions, trough 3 integration principles: Vertical, internal and horizontal integration.** *Does the partner have new governance arrangements in place for integrated plans?* **After the political approval of LAP the new governance system is in its elaboration phase.** *Are there cross departmental teams/communications?* **We have involved in communication the social department of the Municipality. They have a web-page in which all the events, related with social issue, are displayed and moreover they send a bulletin, with news and events (taken also from other information tools), to the local third sector and to whomever subscribes the newsletter.** *Are there cross agency teams /communications?* **In Roma Matrix project we will collaborate with a local communication agency, on the issue of fight against stereotypes, intolerance and xenophobia**
	The Vice Mayor for social policies shares and supports very much the Roma-NET LAP and she personally is the political coordinator of the related activities. She organize regular meetings with technicians involved in the implementation of the LAP for a mutual exchange of informations and an update of policies and projects. Recognition at **local/regiona**l level of the work done: Involvement of representatives of Bologna Municipality in the preparation of the new Regional Law. The Roma issue is now on the political Agenda, even if the number in Bologna are not very high.

	Recognition at **international** level of the work done: Having been selected as partner in others EU projects and in Roma Net Pilot Delivery Network
3.3 MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM	The monitoring of the LAP is done during meetings and focus groups organised by Bologna Municipality
	Only some of the intervention foresees a specific monitoring system
3.4 CAPACITY	We think that in order to evaluate correctly the training needs of the LSG we need to undertake a training needs analysis**.**
3.5 COMMUNICATIONS	As written above, there is the involvement of the communication office of the social department and of the communication agency, contracted for Roma Matrix. We also have regular communication with stakeholders (mainly by email) and politicians trough regular meetings. We have produced a short version of the LAP in Italian and we have disseminate it and the main results of the project even beyond in other areas (ej schools) during events. The has been possible thanks to the fact that the project has been supported and co-funded by EU.
3.6 CHALLENGES	The main challenges encountered in the delivery phase are: delay, lack or withdrawal of funding, changes in economic/social condition, lack of personnel. Some of these obstacles cannot be overcome by us. What we have done is to be keen to results but, at the same time, ready to wait and be patient. We have tried to overcome the financial problem, by applying to different funds.
3.7 DRIVERS	Political commitment New European Projects Relations with Emilia Romagna Region Regional, National and European Legislative Framework Strong commitment of the local stakeholders
4 PERSPECTIVES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR THE DELIVERY NETWORK PHASE	
4.1 PARTNER EXPECTATIONS	*We have organised a meeting on 14 of March in which we will discuss all these issues with our LSG* *Eg increase in funds for the LAP* *Improved staff skills in particular areas* *Creation of new governance mechanisms* *Increased participation of stakeholders* *Improved ability to lead a transnational project*
4.2 MEASURING ACHIEVEMENTS	**We have organised a meeting on 14 of March in which we will discuss all these issues with our LSG** *Include baseline and target values.*

THE CITY OF BUDAPEST

BACKGROUND INFORMATION	
Pilot Delivery Network Title	*ROMA-NeT*
Partner City	Budapest
Member State	Hungary, *Central Hungarian Region*
Geographic size	*Specify the population size of the target areas,* **population of the capital.** **1.750.000 inhabitants, 525km2, 3300 p/km2** Basic characteristics of Roma communities in Budapest include all those challenges that were laid down in the framework strategy of EU. This means poor access to public services in every service fields. The Roma communities do not have the opportunity to receive quality education and most of the members of the community only attain elementary education. Only one tenth achieve secondary education and 1% of Roma go on to University. Most Roma communities in Budapest although urban are segregated. Roma in Budapest do not have equal access to the labour market because of inequalities in education and labour market discrimination and strong prejudices and discrimination by employers and non-Roma employees. Roma in Budapest do not have access to quality health care services because of the institutional discrimination of the system. Life expectancy among Roma is 10 years behind of non Roma groups of urban society. As a result of their low participation in the labour market, Roma usually live in slums or disadvantaged neighbourhoods. This causes physical segregation from the mainstream urban society, keeping them in poverty, reproducing disadvantages of this community
Key Contact person	Attila Molnar and Gizella Matyasi molnara@budapest.hu and matyasig@budapest.hu
Keywords/Tags	*Roma, Inclusion, Exclusion, Discrimination, Please add any others you can think of*
1. DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL ACTION PLAN DEVELOPED WITHIN THE URBACT NETWORK	

Policy Challenges Internal policy challenges and changes	The municipality of Budapest, and Hungary generally is in the midst of a process of political and administrative change. The legal environment and the growing trend towards centrally controlled polices by the state has caused a loss of certain competencies in education, social work and health services. A significant issue for Roma in a political context in Hungary is that there are historical Roma communities that have their own Roma self-government and grassroots non-govermental organizations. But very often these structures and organizations lack the capacity to secure financial resources for their activities. This prevents them from gaining a position of influence or being the engine of the changes in the communities and certain urban areas. In this changing political environment the municipality has to look for alternative ways of functioning. Inclusion and integration policies are difficult to promote and to keep high on the political or operational agenda in such a changing political environment. In such times it is important to develop skills in participative governance, in communication and consultation with other social actors, and learn to be the broker of information. Rather than a top down policy led approach the best opportunity for Roma focused interventions is through a participative programme of actions to engage and influence change through middle ranking policy officials combined with community based action. Most commonly via modular step by step approach.
Main objectives and expected results	To achieve a strong network of social actors, support them to use the integrative approach, capacity building to empower them about economic opportunities, transnational networks, cooperation skills.
Main Activities foreseen	The main lap activities are about reacting and responding to the changing special situation in the Municipality of Budapest. Rather than a top down driving policy the LSG has facilitated the development of a number of initiatives that are being implemented by LSG member organisations with and for the benefit of Roma communities The action plan of Budapest does not focus on tackling a concrete problem in a concrete area. The guiding concept has been to involve grassroot NGOs from the community, to improve their capacities and use them as promoters of change. In the beginning an objective emerged to fit with the urban policy of Budapest, namely that ROMA-NeT shall be adaptable (and feasible) in Budapest offering an approach and scope that can be applicable to many fields in the areas densely populated by Roma people. As a consequence a palette of actions has been prepared to support implementation of the Local Action Plan by the Budapest project organisations. The concrete local activities are relating to urban rehabilitation programmes of local needs We try to connect the LSG member organizations into ERDF funded social rehabilitation projects and to channel their good practise activities into certain regeneration action areas, such just like Kőbánya, Csepel. The LSG partners could smoothly fit their activities into these areas. The bigger challenge is to

| | achieve the involvement of the District authorities.

We also plan to strengthen grassroots organizations through capacity building projects. The LSG has supported and facilitated its partners to participate in transnational partnerships, in a mutual learning process where the municipality and the NGOs learn to cooperate, communicate, develop general skills and fit to the specific characteristics of this field.

An important issue is to engage and involve NGOs to support them to implement their good practices in Budapest, on the main policy fields of Roma inclusion.

The action being implemented are as follows:

- DDialog International Association a member of the ULSG, in partnership with the lead of Municipality of Almeria have been awarded the Project RomaNET WORKS (RNWorks), under the LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME - Policy Co-operation and Innovation in Lifelong Learning (Key Activity 1). The project there will focus on capacity building of the ULSG Budapest, action started at the end 2013;

- 2 of the LSG member organizations (Fókusz Foundation, and ColoRom Association -were channelled into the Kis Pongrác social rehabilitation project. Both organizations were implementing community development projects. Colorom involving the students of the primary school in the action area in its activities to raise sensitivity of majority society and to strengthen the Roma identity of the Roma origin students; Fokusz made a photo project for the area to strengthen local identity of inhabitants by using the tool of photography;

- two of the ULSG members are partners in the Migration Yorkshire led ROMA MATRIX project where two of the Budapest ULSG organizations have been participating; our partners use an integrative approach, and they implement their activities on the field of employment policies, capacity building, community development, anti-discrimination activities (by using media tools and other „watchdog-like" activities), active citizenship, cross community mediation. |
|---|---|
| Funding/ resources | A lack of municipal resources forces us to find external resources. The ERDF and ESF could offer opportunities, but the whole institutional system of managing EU funds was changed for the new programming period and the new structure is not fully in place yet. The Norwegian Fund could also provide some opportunities should the government and the donor state agree on the structure and management. Although we are technically in the new programming period from 2014. So far we do not more information than was available a year ago. |
| Managing Authority (MA – if relevant) | At National level, ministry of national economy (ERDF), and Ministry of Human resources (ESF) the former National Development Agency's functions are delegated to the Ministries and based in a specific Ministry. In the previous phase of ROMA-NeT the LSG had good cooperation with both MAs, but the changed structures mean the development of new |

	relationships.
Timeframe	This is foreseen as a long term programme - 30 years of activities to bring about change. There is a middle term in 5 years and we have short term goals to reach.
Stakeholders	District municipalities District housing companies Budapest Esély Városkutatás Ngos MAs

2. POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC CONTEXT

2.1 National and regional framework	The Hungarian government is very much engaged in Roma inclusion, quite high amount of financial resources are dedicated to this issue, but the main actors are not local authorities. Many of the competencies of local authorities where interventions could happen (education, health care) were centralized by the government. Hungary has not submitted its Partnership Agreement so far (it will happen by 10th March). The system of EU funds management was changed too, so we have to make new contacts. A positive change is that Budapest is in charge of planning its allocation of the ERDF dedicated for regional development. From 2014 Budapest belongs to the more developed regions so its ERDF and ESF allocation is significantly smaller than between 2007-2013, EU co-financing is less and we have to concentrate on fewer priorities.
2.2 The planning context at city level	They are under construction in this very moment. In case of Integrated urban development plan of Budapest and Regional Development Plan of Budapest the experts of LAP are involved to represent the initiatives of LAP.

3. LAP DELIVERY PROGRESS SINCE THE END OF THE URBACT NETWORK (Feb 2013)

3.1 FUNDING/ RESOURCING	EU resources mostly ERDF and ESF type. No secured funding for LAP delivery, we have to find funding for any planned action. We still have to work to fully institutionalize our results. Without getting strong roots in the public administration we do not have the chance for real changes. Some ERDF support was secured during the implementation phase, two of our LSG member NGOs carried out community building actions in an urban regeneration project (district 10) and we had contacts and discussion with other districts but without success. As Budapest is now in charge of planning the regional development allocation (together with the districts) perhaps more results can be achieved.

3.2 GOVERNANCE: PARTNERSHIP, PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT	At what level has stakeholder involvement been maintained? Has the LSG changed? How is it managed? A general communication we kept. In case of calls appearing they are strong, fast cooperations by members. Life of LSG is a continuous change. Because of the involvement of many grassroots organizations, we try to engage and keep them actively involved in the LSG. But many attend if they have a particular problem but do not continue once the problem is solved. One of the most important lessons about the LSG involving Roma members is that 'you can't force anything'. If we tried to push and force things, our meetings would be very empty.
	How is the integrated approach applied to all areas of local service delivery? Casual bilateral coordination exists only. Does the partner have new governance arrangements in place for integrated plans? Not in a systemic way. Are there cross departmental teams/communications? Informal ones. Are there cross agency teams /communications? No
	Has political support been maintained? (e.g. Mayor or deputy mayor or director level official actively involved) Comment on multi-level governance issues. EG Regulatory obligations/frameworks at city/regional/national/EU levels. We have support from decision makers, but it is not easy to involve non Roma politicians. The Roma politicians could be involved easily but mostly they do not have enough influence on our issues at their party.
3.3 MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM	Is any procedure in place to monitor LAP related actions? Not yet.
	If yes please explain how this is applied. Does your city have a monitoring system in place to monitor the integrated approach? What indicators/mechanisms are being used? **No**
3.4 CAPACITY	High co-operation potential, ability of systematizing, high sensitivity about diversity, colour blindness, skills in powerless communication. The most important issue in Hungary would be strengthen public servants with realistic information about roma communities living in Hungary. Through specific intercultural information they would need anti-discrimination trainings.
3.5 COMMUNICATIONS	It is never easy to communicate issues on Roma in Eastern Europe. If you do something, people ask: 'why do you continually give the resources to this community' if you do nothing; they ask why do the authorities not do something with these communities'. The politicians are open to give support provided they do not have to become to personally involved. Much of the public opinion is closed to the problems of Roma. Nowadays we just find more and more closed ears and deeper and deeper prejudices. Stakeholders, who won't believe that something will happen, even if they are personally the beneficiaries.

3.6 CHALLENGES	We had a political change, that didn't really positively influence us during implementation. We lost some very important local resources. Before the city could cope but centralization has cut competencies of municipality, taken away some of the important institutional background that would potentially support new actions and interventions.
3.7 DRIVERS	Roma origin politicians. Enthusiastic non Roma experts. Motivated Roma youngsters are rare but if you find them you can count on them.
4 PERSPECTIVES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR THE DELIVERY NETWORK PHASE	
4.1 PARTNER EXPECTATIONS	Improved staff skills in particular areas Creation of new governance mechanisms Increased participation of stakeholders Improved ability to lead a transnational project
4.2 MEASURING ACHIEVEMENTS	From project to project we set up separate project and result based monitoring process.
5. FURTHER INFORMATION	
Bibliography	New national census datas are out at the national statistical institute's website. There are a lot of these articles written by experts published by websites of NGOs and institutions, there are link collections at certain websites just like romapage.hu. There is s lot of research on the basic topic, here are a link of a 200 pages research on employment and organizations working on Roma employment. This research was finanaced by the Roma Education Fund. http://www.forrayrkatalin.hu/doski/gipsystudies20.pdf

CITY OF GLASGOW

BACKGROUND INFORMATION	
Pilot Delivery Network Title	*ROMA-NeT*
Partner City	Glasgow City Council
Member State	UK
Geographic size	Population of Glasgow approx 589,000 with a Roma population estimate of 3,000-3,500.
Key Contact person	Marie McLelland, Project Manager, Glasgow City Council Marie.mclelland@glasgow.gov.uk
Keywords/Tags	*Roma, Inclusion, Exclusion, Discrimination, Please add any others you can think of*

1. DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL ACTION PLAN DEVELOPED WITHIN THE URBACT NETWORK	
Policy challenge	The LAP challenges the high levels of poverty and marginalisation suffered by the Roma in Glasgow in the areas of health, housing, education and employment and hopes to address the poor levels of community empowerment and engagement.
Main objectives and expected results	The main objectives of the LAP is to improve access to health, housing, education and employment for Roma in Glasgow, to improve their capacity to take part in local decision making structures and to improve the capacity of the city to access the necessary resources and funding to build bridges between Roma and mainstream services.
Main Activities foreseen	What are the main LAP activities? • Improve the educational attainment of Roma children; • Support family literacy and language support; • Support integrated community activities; • Provide additional employment and skills development support; • Explore the option of Roma health mediators; • Improve links with cities of origin to improve social work provision; • Encourage wider policy debate on Roma access to good quality housing; • Encourage Scottish Government to ensure Roma inclusion is recognised in policy and funding plans.
Funding/ resources	Currently lobbying for measure to be included in European Structural and Investment Programme for 2014-2020.
Managing Authority (MA – if relevant)	The Managing Authority is the Structural Fund Division of the Scottish Government who is a regional (Scottish) Government devolved from the National (UK) Government.
Timeframe	The LAP has no current timeframe. It is anticipated that this will be a long-term evolving plan that will be incorporated into other strategies/plans of the local authority that span 5-7 years.
Stakeholders	Glasgow City Council Govanhill Housing Association Jobs and Business Glasgow Police Scotland Govanhill Community Development Trust Community Renewal Romano Lav

	Oxfam Greater Glasgow Health West of Scotland Regional Equality Council Glasgow Life The Big Issue

2. POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC CONTEXT

2.1 National and regional framework	There is no National Roma Integration Strategy at Scotland level but we are working with the Scottish Government to prepare an overarching strategy for Gypsy, Travellers and Roma. The UK Strategy does not carry any political weight and there is resistance from the Department for Communities and Local Government to prepare such a UK wide strategy expressing an updated articulation of the situation of Roma in the UK. GCC in Partnership with the Scottish Government carried out a mapping exercise to identify the number and the localities and to provide insight into the living situations of Roma populations in Scotland in 2013. A UK wide mapping exercise was carried out by Salford University into the numbers of Roma living in the UK. The most recent estimates are of some 200,000. The populations are concentrated in a small number of local authorities in the UK. This causes disproportionate pressure on a these particular local authorities, which is recognised but not supported with additional resources. GCC and ROMA-NeT are members of the UK Roma Network where there influencing and cooperation opportunities with other Government departments such as Department of Work and Pensions. GCC have hosted numerous visits from senior policy officers from UK and Scottish Government and has attracted the attention of the Fundamental Rights Agency.
2.2 The planning context at city level	Provide details of local and regional plans that relate to your ROMA-NeT LAP Glasgow City Council's Strategic Plan for 2012-2017 sets out the Council's priorities for this period. Priorities include: • Economic growth; and is • A world class city • A sustainable city • A city that looks after its vulnerable people • A learning city. The Govanhill Partnership Plan is also under development with the headings of people, place and economy. There are explicit instructions that the recommendations in the Roma Net LAP are incorporated into this plan and that any policy developments complement Roma Net.

3. LAP DELIVERY PROGRESS SINCE THE END OF THE URBACT NETWORK (Feb 2013)

3.1 FUNDING/ RESOURCING	Resources and funding to deliver the LAP have been hard to come by however we were successful in following areas: • We secured Technical Assistance funding to map the Roma population in Scotland. This allowed us to meet our planned

	objective of establishing a national context to ensure we are not working in isolation. this was also to give us a platform for discussion with the Scottish Government on the formulation of the next Structural Fund programme for 2014-2020; • We have secured funding through the Lifelong Learning Programme to look at social and educational support to 0-8 year olds. This is part of the Roma Net Works project led by Almeria; • Funding via Roma Matrix from DG Justice to look at racism and xenophobia. This has given us support to look at capacity building, awareness raising and role of the media. It is anticipated that future funding options are limited and our main aim is to secure funding from the 2014-2020 Structural Fund Programme.
3.2 GOVERNANCE: PARTNERSHIP, PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT	Stakeholder engagement has been maintained and the Local Support Group continues to meet. It has grown to incorporate new members following the national mapping exercise that linked us into new networks and identified organisations that are engaging with the Roma at a more regional and national level. This has added a lot of value to the group and allowed us to work in a more strategic way.
	Roma inclusion in Glasgow is being addressed through a partnership approach and any future resource will be applied in an integrated way. A multi-disciplinary team work together to look at a range of issues that affect the Roma locally and Glasgow City Council now has a dedicated Roma project manager to work with community organisations, other council departments and national stakeholders alike. Cross-agency working is commonplace.
	Political support has grown over the past 2 years. This support has been strengthened and maintained. This includes support from local elected officials and also from regional government at the top level.
3.3 MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM	No procedure in place however we have strong peer support. A monitoring framework for LAP actions would be welcome.
	No monitoring system in place.
3.4 CAPACITY	The city is rich in skill and expertise - the issue is deviating scarce skilled resource to work on Roma inclusion. The City has been successful in recruiting and procuring staff and services to look at Roma inclusion. There is a need to improve knowledge and awareness of Roma in LA staff. Increased training/support to the LSG to access funding would b advantageous. There also needs to be greater community capacity building/training. Training needs of stakeholders is unknown. A training needs analysis would be useful.
3.5 COMMUNICATIONS	LAP progress is reported via the Roma Net meetings and to senior

	management within GCC. There is a great deal of peer-to-peer exchange that allows for good informal circulation of information. A Roma Net webpage on the GCC website is being developed. This will be a public page from which information can be communicated. *At local level and beyond?* The lack of resources to dedicate to communication activity is often an issue. In addition, there is a hesitancy to publicly promote information for fear of backlash from non-Roma community.
3.6 CHALLENGES	We are in a period of flux in terms of funding – the new SF programme has not kicked-off. This will hopefully be a significant source of funding. Furthermore, LA budgets are continually shrinking which makes it more difficult to dedicate resource. *Explain any steps taken so far to address these challenges, and any changes made to the LAP as a result.* The LAP is being revisited as we speak to take into account any changes in economic landscape or resources but also to recognise where achievements have been made. The LAP will reflect this.
3.7 DRIVERS	LAP has been driven forward with particular help from a number of key partners. Each objective of health, housing, education and employment was allocated an objective lead officer/organisation to take responsibility for driving forward that part of the plan. The cross-cutting theme of empowerment/engagement has been led by locally based organisation who are at the forefront of many of the inclusion issues faced by Roma. The Govanhill Partnership will be a driving policy in regenerating the area in which the vast majority of Roma live. This plan will take cognisance of the Roma Net LAP.

4 PERSPECTIVES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR THE DELIVERY NETWORK PHASE

4.1 PARTNER EXPECTATIONS	GCC hopes to: - build the capacity of the now well established LSG; - Identify positive methods of engagement with Roma community; - Establish a parallel LSG consisting of Roma representatives and allow them to take part in more decision making and exchange activities; - Continue the joint working of the Roma Net partner cities to explore areas of collaboration and future projects; - Identify the main challenges in the Roma Net implementation phase and work together to identify methods to overcome these challenges; - To give cities a greater platform to influence local, regional and national policy development. *How will participation enhance delivery of the LAP?* - Training and support, including practitioner exchange, that increases the capacity of members of the LSG and their organisations; - Support and collaboration to identify successful methods of lobbying for policy change/influence; - Producing case studies and practical learning on improving methods of engagement.

	What specific learning needs do they hope to address? The LSG needs to build its capacity for funding at a strategic rather than a partner-by partner *Describe any specific indicators/targets to measure progress* *Eg increase in funds for the LAP* *Improved staff skills in particular areas* *Creation of new governance mechanisms* *Increased participation of stakeholders* *Improved ability to lead a transnational project* • *Identifiable projects that are linked in to domestic ESIF programmes;* • *Greater Roma participation in LSG;* • *Evidence of local, regional and national policies that take cognisance of Roma inclusion.*
4.2 MEASURING ACHIEVEMENTS	• *Increased number of Roma engaging with and contributing to the Roma LSG – measured by numbers at beginning and end of project;* • *More strategic projects developed and funded in partnership with other agencies – formal projects rather than being part of same network – number of partners, amount of funding etc;* • *Development and funding of a project looking at innovative methods of employment for Roma.*

CITY OF NAGYKÁLLÓ

BACKGROUND INFORMATION	
Pilot Delivery Network Title	ROMA-NeT II
Partner City	City of Nagykálló
Member State	Hungary,Northern Great Plain region, Szabolcs Szatmár-Bereg county
Geographic size	The effective population size of Nagykálló is 9829. Approximately 13-15% of the total population of Nagykálló are Roma, or between 1300 and 1500 people. The population of the municipality is between 350 and 360 people. Nagykálló has four settlements around: - Biri (1404 people) - Érpatak (1769 people) - Kállósemjén (3762 people) - Napkor (3794 people) Due to the data the functional urban area is 10729 people.
Key Contact person	Klára Magyar, magyar.nagykallo@gmail.com, +36305557837, +36/42 263-101/131
Keywords/Tags	Housing, Employment, Supporting integration, Families, Equal opportunities, Integration

1. DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL ACTION PLAN DEVELOPED WITHIN THE URBACT NETWORK	

Policy challenge	The key policy challenge is the segregation and the low quality of life of poor people - primarily the roma population - in Nagykálló. More specifically, the roma population faces the following issues:
	- Poor living conditions, segregated dwellings
	- Low level of education
	- Very high level of unemployment - well above the town average
	- Their main sources of income are social transfers and occasional work on the black labour market
	- As the income from work is comparable with the income from social transfers and occasional work (working in some cases may even lead to losing some of the transfers), there is very limited motivation to work on the open labor market
	- Even if some of the Roma people would want to work, they:
	   • lack the necessary knowledge, skills and work experience;
	   • have a work culture and ethic different from the rest of the local population
	   • face major discrimination from the part of the potential employers
	The low level of education is reproduced in the consecutive generations, and the children are not grown up in working families;
	- There is low level of trust, tolerance and acceptance towards the roma community within the majority society

Main objectives and expected results	The overall objective of the LAP is that Roma population gradually integrated in the Nagykálló local community. The specific objectives are: — Proper housing conditions ensured for every Nagykálló citizens — Increased activity rate of roma people through gradual reintegration into the labour market — Improved conditions, quality of life of roma women — Equal opportunities for roma children through support programmes — Active involvement of the entire community in the integration process It is aimed at establishing a long-term, sustainable solution, rather than setting up a one-off project while trying to tackle a complex issue. Having said that, we believe that in order to make real change happen, the establishment of long-term interventions - or rather, mechanisms - in itself is not sufficient; in order to keep the motivation and commitment of the various stakeholders strong, short-term actions bringing about quick results - quick wins - are also needed. That is where our two-stage approach comes in: while stage two focuses on launching long-term, sustainable processes, stage one involves the implementation of quick win actions, delivering specific results early on in the implementation process.
Main Activities foreseen	The main activities are the four pillars of the LAP. The four pillaras are equally important in ensuring sustainable integration of roma people in the local community: - **Housing:** all people - including members of the roma community - has the right to proper housing conditions - affordable and decent quality dwellings; - **Employment:** without appropriate income, earned as a result of work, successful and sustainable integration is not possible; - **Families** - and specifically women and children - have to be involved and need support in a variety of areas in order to embrace and even promote the change process; - **Integration:** a multitude of accompanying measures (cultural, educational, communication) is necessary to facilitate smooth integration - and many of these measures have to target the majority population to avoid conflicts or refusal, and promote inclusion.
Funding/ resources	Name: Integrated Social Urban City Rehabilitation of Nagykálló Identification number: ÉAOP-5.1.1/A-2f-2009-0001 Total cost: 731.080.684 HUF Total support: 551.689.797 HUF The projects of the Integrated Social Urban City Rehabilitation of Nagykálló fit with the aims of the LAP. The main activities are: - development of social housing, community house, incubator house - rehabilitation of housing projects, housing environment - renovation of public housing - make recreation park - labor market training and other trainings

	- employment of long term unemployed
Managing Authority (MA – if relevant)	The name of the MA: Ministry of National Economy The responsible MA is the Managing Authority of the Regional Operational Programme – operating on national level, at the Ministry of National Economy. The Intermediary Body functions are carried out by the Ministry of National Economy, operating on regional level.
Timeframe	The implementation of certain LAP elements has already started. We envisage that the roma integration actions are processes rather than one-off activities, stretching well beyond the pilot network life-cycle; we plan, however, that the most important actions of the LAP are completed by the end of 2018.
Stakeholders	The LAP was made by the Nagykálló Local Support Group. The main members of the LSG are: - Dr. Jenei Terézia, Romology expert - Bogdán Zoltán, Roma Minority Self-Government - Kézy Béla, Megakom Development Consultants - Tömöri László, "Emisszió" environmental protection association - Török László, Nagykálló Municipality (notary) - Véghseő Sándor, Urbs Novum urban development company - Trefán Jánosné, Member of the Local Government, Vice Mayor of Nagykálló - Balogh József, HÍD Community Centre - Csoba Judit, University of Debrecen, Sociology and Social Policy Faculty - Novák Ágnes, Technical University of Budapest - Balogh Zoltán, North Great Plain Regional Development Agency

2. POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC CONTEXT

— 2.1 National and regional framework	Hungary - as all of the EU member states - is actively preparing for the efficient and effective use of funds in the 2014-2020 programming period. Tackling poverty as a key challenge for the entire country is at the forefront of policy initiatives. The National Social Inclusion Strategy (NSIS) identifies a number of objectives for the 2011-2020 period in line with objectives of the EU 2020 Strategy: — "the number of people living in poverty and social exclusion needs to be reduced, — the reproduction of poverty must be prevented, — equal accessibility to public services and socio-economic goods must be improved and social cohesion must be enhanced. — The NSIS objectives related to the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies include combating

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<td>child and deep poverty, integration of the Roma and other disadvantaged groups into society. This implies a major challenge due to the average value of indicators on material deprivation was 42.2% in 2011 and the proportion of people living in serious material deprivation was 23.1% (NSIS, 2011).

The national development priority No4 of the draft Partnership Agreement of Hungary is aimed at "Tackling social and demographic challenges; good governance"
Within this development priority, interventions focus - among others - on the following areas:

"Promotion of social inclusion by the intensification of social activity, strengthening communities, anti-discrimination and awareness-raising programmes, strengthening the role of family inside society, and rehabilitation."
The document also highlights, that "the targeted management of the situation of the Roma people living in poverty can be assured in different ways:
    "(1) The focus of developments can concentrate on the elimination of obstacles afflicting Roma people in great numbers (e.g. low-education or unemployment spanning generations)...
(2) Incentives for the inclusion of Roma people in case their involvement is significant (e.g. supporting further education, reducing early school-leaving)
(3) Targeted Roma programmes for education and employment of Roma women, familiarisation with Roma culture.
While the document foresees also dedicated Roma programmes, many of these developments join the main current of social inclusion measures."

Measures targeted at improving the situation of roma people can be funded from the Human Resource Development Operational Programme, and also from the Territorial and Settlement Development Operational Programme - this potentially provides a favourable funding environment for roma integration measures.</td>
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<td>2.2 The planning context at city level</td>
<td>ROMA-NeT LAP

As part of the preparation for the 2014-2020 programming period, each county has to prepare its development strategy and programme; significant funds will be dedicated to the implementation of the programme. The programme of Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg county will be finalized by the end of May; its final draft proposes funding for roma integration / addressing poverty.
In addition, a regional programme will be launched to support the preparation of integrated urban development strategies for small towns; this will enable Nagykálló to prepare its strategy by the end of 2014. The RomaNet Local Action Plan will serve as a major input to the preparation of this strategy.
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3. LAP DELIVERY PROGRESS SINCE THE END OF THE URBACT NETWORK (Feb 2013)

3.1 FUNDING/ RESOURCING	The new social urban rehabilitation program gives funding opportunities. Nagykálló applied for the program we are waiting for the results but probably we will not procure it.
3.2 GOVERNANCE: PARTNERSHIP, PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT	Stakeholder involvement remained high even after the finish of the Romanet URBACT II project. The good chance of getting funding (in the frame of a dedicated pilot social urban rehabilitation project) for many of the roma integration measures jointly developed and presented in the Local Action Plan kept the motivation of stakeholders - LSG members - going strong

Unfortunately, though, despite all the preparations, negotiations and commitments, all of a sudden funding for the pilot projects has been canceled without forewarning or any explanation.

This sudden negative change has resulted in major loss of motivation and also trust among the LSG members, and finally the local support group stopped working.
This is to be changed, though, as the integrated settlement development strategy of the town for the period 2014-2020 needs to be prepared before the end of this year. We plan to rely heavily on the extended local support group in this planning process |
	Integrated approach applied in most of the areas of service delivery. Although there are no formal new governance arrangements to ensure integrated service delivery in place yet, there is regular cross-departmental communication. Unfortunately, though, the funding environment does not support integrated approach. While integrated approach in the projects and programmes submitted is requested, funding streams are still very much sectoral and individual project-based. This environment does not really facilitate the implementation of multi-year integrated programmes, that would be crucial to successful roma inclusion.
	Local political support for roma integration is in place: the Mayor finds this issue important, and one of the vice-mayors bears responsibility and is also strongly motivated to create the local conditions of gradual roma integration.
3.3 MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM	No formal monitoring system is in place. The departments and stakeholders involved in implementing LAP related actions regularly report to the notary (head of admionistration) of the town.
	There is no monitoring system in place to monitor integrated approach.
3.4 CAPACITY	*What skills are needed for integrated delivery?*
⁻ Designing integrated projects
⁻ Workshop delivery
⁻ Presentation skills
⁻ Social media communication
Has the city been able to recruit and/or procure effectively?
- Yes
What are the training needs of city staff delivering integrated

	action plans? ⁻ Designing integrated projects ⁻ Workshop delivery ⁻ Presentation skills ⁻ Social media communication ⁻ Funding possibilities in the 2014-2020 programming period ⁻ Project writing *What are the training needs of stakeholders especially those on the LAP?* ⁻ Negotiation skills ⁻ Communication with target groups (poor people, roma communities) ⁻ Management of integrated interventions ⁻ Monitoring integrated interventions *How are these being addressed?* - There is no training plan in place yet
3.5 COMMUNICATIONS	How is LAP delivery progress communicated? To stakeholders, to politicians, to the public? • To stakeholders: LSG meetings • To politicians: providing regular information at council meetings • To the local public: local television, local events, social media • At local level and beyond? Beyond local level there is very limited communication - mainly informal channels. • Does your city face challenges when communicating LAP progress? • - When there is progress to talk about, there is no majod challenge.
3.6 CHALLENGES	The key challenges with regard to the Roma population are as follows: ⁻ Poor living conditions ⁻ Segregated dwellings ⁻ Low level of education ⁻ Very high level of unemployment - well above the town average ⁻ Their main sources of income are social transfers and occasional work on the black labour market ⁻ As the income from work is comparable with the income from social transfers and occasional work (working in some cases may even lead to losing some of the transfers), there is very limited intention to work. Even if some of the Roma people would want to work, they: ⁻ lack the necessary knowledge, skills and work experience; ⁻ have a work culture and ethic different from the rest of the local population ⁻ face major discrimination from the part of the potential employers

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‾ The low level of education is reproduced in the consecutive generations, and the children are not grown up in working families.

The Municipality of Nagykálló has long been experimenting with providing innovative and integrated solutions to social challenges in the city:

‾ The Municipality has implemented various measures to improve the quality of life and chances of people with disadvantageous situation (e.g. integrated education, providing complex services on microregional level, providing support beyond the obligatory social transfers, debt management support).

‾ The city has an „Antisegregation Plan" which identifies comprehensive solutions for helping people with disadvantegous situation and interventions to address the problems in segregated areas. The objectives of this plan include the increase of employment of disadvantaged people, improving their housing environment, fostering their stronger integration in the local society.

‾ The Municipality has already successfully implemented a social urban rehabilitation programme co-financed by the European Union (total budget: HUF 894 Million). A community centre, a social incubator and social hosusing facilities were completed as part of the project, together with numerous complementary soft interventions.

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3.7 DRIVERS

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Commitment of the vice-mayor and the notary is crucial. In addition, the knowledge, skills and strong commitment of the professionals directly involved in project delivery and working closely with the target group are also very important drivers.

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4 PERSPECTIVES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR THE DELIVERY NETWORK PHASE

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4.1 PARTNER EXPECTATIONS

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What does the partner aim to achieve by participating in the pilot delivery network?
‾ Updating and implementing the Local Action Plan
‾ Maintaining the strong international knowledge network developed in the first phase
How will participation enhance delivery of the LAP?
‾ Increased visibility of the programme and the efforts made
‾ Learning from best practices (and also from failures) of peers across Europe
‾ Joint development of methodologies / solutions to challenges hindering implementation
What specific learning needs do they hope to address?
‾ Methods to increase employment of deprived groups - especially roma people
‾ How to engage and actively involve roma people in designing and implementing roma integration initiatives
‾ Communication to the society at large to increase engagement and acceptance of roma integration measures
Describe any specific indicators/targets to measure progress

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	(proposed indicators are underlined): - Increase in funds for the LAP - Improved staff skills in particular areas - Creation of new governance mechanisms - Increased participation of stakeholders - especially roma community - Improved ability to lead a transnational project - Increased employment of roma people
4.2 MEASURING ACHIEVEMENTS	Increase in funds for the LAP (baseline, target) Number of roma people in employment (baseline, target)

5. FURTHER INFORMATION

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THE CITY OF TORRENT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION	
Pilot Delivery Network Title	ROMA-NeT II
Partner City	Torrent City Council
Member State	Spain. Valencia
Geographic size	The Autonomous Community of Valencia, is situated in the east of the Iberian Peninsula, and is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea. The 3 provinces, Alicante, Castellón and Valencia have got all together an extension of 23.255 km and have got 5.094.675 inhabitants. Torrent is located in the metropolitan area of Valencia and is the capital of the region of l'Horta Sud .With 83.536 inhabitants, Torrent is the third most populous municipality in the province of Valencia and the eighth in the Community . More than 50 thousand Roma live in the territory of "Comunidad Valenciana", 8% of the Spanish Roma community. Their social situation is diverse and the community is in the process of transformation. Many actions have already taken place in the field of integration, employment, education and the region has developed significantly but the quality of life of the Roma population does not mirror this development. The number of inhabitants of Torrent has significantly increased in the last decades mainly due to migration both from Spain and other countries. The area called *Barrio del Xenillet* accumulates the highest number of Roma and migrant families and families at risk of exclusion. About half of the Roma population in this neighbourhood have not finished primary education, the illiteracy rate of this group is 25%. One of the main challenges is to generate interest in new technologies in the Roma community. The European Union together with the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Finance approved the project "URBAN TORRENT" within the Plan "URBAN Initiative" financed by the ERDF and the Municipality of Torrent. The neighbourhood of Xenillet starts to see the first results of this ambitious URBAN project with a budget of € 15 million and Torrent will bring in the partnership its experience with integrated urban development projects.
Key Contact person	Mª José Muñoz Pretel. Local Project Manager
Keywords/Tags	ROMA POPULATION, INTEGRATED URBAN DEVELOPMENT
1. DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL ACTION PLAN DEVELOPED WITHIN THE URBACT NETWORK	
Policy challenge	The main objectives of the plan are to promote new actions meant to correct the existing imbalances between the vulnerable population and the whole population residing in Torrent. To boost various forms of participation and social development that in their turn enhance the full enjoyment of rights and access to goods and services, given that the management of diversity acts as an enhancer of synergies and as a factor of prevention of inequalities

Main objectives and expected results	Through the five areas in which the Plan is structured, - Employment and economic activity - Education - Urbanism and housing - Social Services It seeks to meet the following three objectives: 1) Deepen and advance in the design of strategies and clear actions to improve the image of vulnerable groups, eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote equal treatment and effective social participation. 2) Carry out specific actions in the areas of intervention identified as priority, in order to make further steps in achieving the essential goal of promoting the full enjoyment of rights and access to goods and services for vulnerable individuals, with the help, participation and collaboration of all stakeholders involved in various areas. 3) Contribute to encouraging the development of European policy and politics in favour of the vulnerable population, diversity management and gender equalities, these vulnerable groups not only being simple recipients but also actively involved in the development of the politics and norms Our objectives should have the following characteristics: Achievable. Understandable. Must be quantified or expressed in figures. They are located in a time horizon. Must be derived from the strategies of the institution. They should not be abstract. Must have the ability to transform into specific tasks. The concentration of resources and effort above should enable ; and Must be multiple. The pilot delivery will provide an opportunity to reconsider and if necessary to revise the defined goals and objectives. In consequence our goals should be better thought out and written again.
Main Activities foreseen	Training in employment programs and vocational programs and new technologies. Job intermediation. Free kindergarten. A Roma mediator. Increasing the supply of housing (social renting aid)
Funding/ resources	We have had funding for the principal activities because these are the priorities of the political body: Training in employment programs and vocational programs and new technologies. Job intermediation. Free kindergarten. A Roma mediator. Increasing the supply of housing (social renting aid)

Managing Authority (MA – if relevant)	MINISTERIO DE HACIENDA DE ESPAÑA Subdirector General de Fondos de Cohesion y cooperacion territorial y administraciones públicas Fernando Fernández Melle Aproving the local First Controllers of URBACT (34) 91 583 5197 ffmelle@sepo.minhap.es (*) Person of contact : Anselmo Saiz (control and inspection) asainz@sepg.minhap.es (34) 91 583 7320
Timeframe	We are implementing according to the planned timeline.(2012-2016)
Stakeholders	Nous Espais (Public Company-urban issues) IDEAT (Public Company-employment issues) Casa de la Caridad (NGO- Management of the free kindergarden) Technicians Politicians (…)

2. POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC CONTEXT

2.1 National and regional framework	**EUROPE 2020 IN SPAIN** The main challenge for Spain is to boost economic growth and employment and correct the excessive macroeconomic imbalances. Continued fiscal consolidation and stronger fiscal institutions are needed to ensure sustainable public finances. Completing financial sector repair and restructuring is paramount to support the real economy. Competitiveness and export capacity need to be further improved, while competition in domestic goods and services sectors is still insufficient. Most crucially, the labour market situation remains critical. Early school leaving and a vocational training system which is insufficiently tailored to market needs remain a problem. Poverty and social exclusion are on the rise. The National Inclusion Plan in Spain National Roma Integration Strategy in Spain Regional Inclusion Plan in the Autonomous Community of Valencia.
2.2 The planning context at city level	We have a municipal diversity management plan which is the overarching structure for social and economic inclusion of minority and other poor and vulnerable groups: including Roma

3. LAP DELIVERY PROGRESS SINCE THE END OF THE URBACT NETWORK (Feb 2013

3.1 FUNDING/ RESOURCING	We haven't been able to secure adequate funding/resources to deliver the action plan. The city has designated funding to the political priority areas. Funding comes from Torrent City Council, The Autonomous Community of Valencia and EU (FEDER-URBAN)and private sector (Casa de la Caridad NGO). The new requirements are to find new funding opportunities in the EU.
3.2 GOVERNANCE: PARTNERSHIP, PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT	The stakeholder involvement hasn't been maintained. We are planning how to change and manage the LSG. At the moment, we don't apply the integrated approach. But Torrent City Council has started a modernization process. And we think that the Modernization Steering Committee is going to be an important key in all the cross-agency and communications issues. Our mayor is actively involved in the project.
3.3 MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM	*Describe the LAP monitoring system* The present plan requires the collaboration and involvement of various participative organisations that offer opportunities for debate, reflection and to achieve a better knowledge of the reality and diversity of the population of Torrent, We are thinking if that the **Modernization Group (Chiefs of principle municipal departments (15))** could be in charge of monitoring and assessment of indicators. It will act as a working group on indicators and shall be formed of political and technical delegations and public servants involved in each area to allow monitoring and evaluation of the Plan. We are conscious that we aren't capturing the added value of the integrated approach. And we must rethink and remake our plan and our indicators.
3.4 CAPACITY	***Training needs:*** -Quality Process (planning) -Work team training - Social media - Coaching -(… we are thinking about this point)
3.5 COMMUNICATIONS	We don´t have a professional communication plan. And we have underutilized resources such as the municipal press office.
3.6 CHALLENGES	At the moment we are thinking about the challenges and obstacles: lack of personnel, lack of funding, and need of European strategy for our City council.
3.7 DRIVERS	The involvement of individual people is a strong driver of change and has a significant influence on policy, The key people who ensure Roma inclusion stays on the agenda are : - The Mayor Amparo Folgado Tonda - The Councilior Pilar Vilanova Alabarta. Social Welfare Department - Álvaro Marzal Cantero. Chief of Social Welfare and Local Supervisor of Romanet Project

	- Mª José Muñoz Pretel RomaNet Local Project Manager
4 PERSPECTIVES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR THE DELIVERY NETWORK PHASE	
4.1 PARTNER EXPECTATIONS	*Increase funds for the LAP* *Improved staff skills* *Creation of new governance mechanism* *Changed and Increased participation of stakeholders* *Improved ability to lead a transnational project.*
4.2 MEASURING ACHIEVEMENTS	No plan – the city is thinking about this point.
5. FURTHER INFORMATION	
Bibliography	*http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/files/roma_spain_strategy_en.pdf* *http://www.romadecade.org/cms/upload/file/9270_file16_sp_civil-society-monitoring-report_en.pdf* *http://www.eu-inclusive.eu/bulgaria-learning-experience-spain-which-european-champion-roma-social-integration* *http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romani_people_in_Spain* *http://debatewise.org/debates/2332-can-the-rest-of-europe-replicate-spain-s-success-in-the-integration-of-roma-population/*

METHODOLOGY

Building on the methodology, results and learning the occurred during the RomaNet action phase we have designed a similar methodology for the pilot delivery network.
Transnational and local activities are planned to support and strengthen each other; to strengthen local implementation management and monitoring structures while communication and influencing activities will help to reach out to decision makers, stakeholders, to ignite positive change, and to build on local, national and European policy influencing capacity.

The learning exchanges of the implementation phase (both learning cluster events and P-t-P exchanges designed for ULSG members) were the most successful learning and dissemination tool. The open and supportive environment, action learning, interactive sessions they produced a basis for positive, forward looking, integrating working methodology these have been retained and will be further nurtured in the delivery phase.

Transnational exchange and peer review activities
In the application we have foreseen two Working Groups with three cities in each and planned 4 separate WG meetings that would allow deeper exchange and two all partners meetings where we present learning in the WGs and address learning needs identified during WG meetings. WG themes were not decided in advance, they evolved during the WG themes session at the kick-off meeting. These themes will provide the frame to assess LAP actions An important outcome of this session was that we decided to open up WG meetings to members of the other WG (depending on available financial resources) offering this way more learning opportunities for partners.
WG themes, members, meeting timetable:

WG	theme	members	meeting timetable
WG1	Innovation for Employability of working age Roma	Glasgow – lead Budapest Torrent	10-11 April 2014- Budapest 30 Sept.-1 Oct. 2014- Torent
WG2	Communication for Change	Nagykálló – lead Almería Bologna	8-9 April 2014 – Nagykálló 16-17 September 2014 (?) - Bologna

The working groups will follow two tried and tested methodologies - the Peer Review approach used by the EUROCITIES Roma Task Force to review the relevance, project design, results, wider impact and sustainability of employability projects working with the Roma population in Glasgow and the Implementation Lab methodology developed by the URBACT, REDIS network. There will be 4 two-day WG meetings (two/WG).

During WG meetings we will work along two main lines:

- self-assessment of LAP actions/ implementation related to the main theme of the meeting - the host partner will complete a self-assessment of the LAP actions providing background information about the developments taking place in their city in advance - The visiting partners will review and discuss the content of the self-assessment. A number of local stakeholders will provide presentations about the actions, there will be site visit where relevant.

- presentation and peer review of relevant projects/programmes implemented or planned by project partners – external actors, that can add to the value of learning will also be invited

Finally there will be a question and answer session and a facilitated discussion between the presenters and the audience. The group will discuss and analyse the information collected on day one and two to decide what learning points or question to showcase and share with the next transnational all partner meeting.

All Partner Meetings

| 18-20 June | Glasgow |
| 12-14 November | Almería |

There will be two all partner transnational exchange and learning meetings. These meetings will take place over three days. The meeting will deliver a mix of expert led training, information exchange and participative learning methodologies. The first such meeting will take place in June in Glasgow and will include

- Expert lead training – the topic of training will be CLLD; monitoring and evaluation; and development of monitoring indicators. Managing Authority representatives from the partner cities will be invited to present how CLLD is addressed in their OPs.
- LAP Implementation Review – training and a participative workshop on the LAP review process which will start at the transnational event and then to be completed by LSG members;
- Training needs analysis - training and a participative workshop on assessing LSG training needs which will start at the transnational event and then to be completed by LSG members;
- Indicator development workshops training and a participative workshop on the indicators which will start at the transnational event and then to be completed by LSG members;

The Almería all partner meeting will showcase achieved learning and answer to questions identified during the September WG meetings.

Local activities related to LAP delivery

During the previous ROMA-NeT implementation phase many LSG members participated in the transnational learning events where they built their understanding about the core themes of Roma inclusion and about the need for a step by step integrated approach, for partnership working and for active involvement of Roma. The pilot delivery phase of ROMA-NeT will provide the opportunity to continue participation of LSG members in the transnational learning activities. This will contribute to strengthening the operational capacity of the LSGs as a local management structure. When hosting a WG meeting or an all partners meeting the host city will involve ULSG members in the preparation of the meeting, drafting the case study, present actions, when attending a WG meeting or an all partners meeting - at least one member of the visiting group will be from the ULSG.

The forums where activities will be take place are as follows:

- LSG meetings – there are specific actions that have to take place at the LSG meetings. LSG actions will take place before working group and transnational meetings so the information can feed into the meetings and after working group and transnational activities so learning can be disseminated back to LSG members. The LSGs will have support from working group leads and lead expert.
- Working groups – ULSG members will attend the event hosted by their city and one non-institutional member of ULSG will attend WG meetings organized in partner cities
- All partner meetings – host city ULSG members will contribute to the meeting while partner city ULSG members will attend.

Trainings planned for transnational events:

- Expert lead training – the topic of training will be CLLD; monitoring and evaluation; and development of monitoring indicators. Managing Authority representatives from the partner cities will be invited to present how CLLD is addressed in their OPs.
- LAP Implementation Review – training and a participative workshop on the LAP review process which will start at the transnational event and then to be completed by LSG members;
- Training needs analysis - training and a participative workshop on assessing LSG training needs which will start at the transnational event and then to be completed by LSG members;
- Indicator development workshops training and a participative workshop on the indicators which will start at the transnational event and then to be completed by LSG members;

Other training

- Tailored training – based on the training needs analysis each partner city will organize training for the ULSG (format to be decided by the partner)
- National capacity building scheme: nominated members of the ULSGs will attend the capacity building.

COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

ROMA-NeT II communication will embrace local, national and international communication and dissemination. We will build on the communication channels established during the implementation phase (contact data base, strong presence in Brussels, contacts with other networks active in this field) and try to strengthen our social media presence. The purpose of this will be to capitalise on the good practice being shared and developed and to use this work to influence at local, national and international level. It will take a strategic approach with our communications to incorporate several deliverables and to ensure good partnership working and maximum capitalisation.

Communication tools:

- newsletters – three English newsletters will be prepared to be disseminated at European level – partners will translate and use only the relevant articles
- attending events and conferences – it was a very useful tool during implementation phase. The previous Brussels dissemination seminar was highly appreciated by participating partners we will try to make our final conference to be held in Brussels a similarly good event
- case studies – during implementation phase they were prepared for learning purposes now we will aim to use them for communication/dissemination purposes which requires some facelifting
- local dissemination seminars – partners decide about format (seminar, information stand t local conference, phot exhibition, etc.)
- articles/presence in local media – partners to decide how best do it without getting contrapositive results.

TO SUM UP

The Pilot Development Project of Roma-Net and now Roma-NeT II brings six partners from the Roma-NeT Action Planning Stage back together to share in learning exchange and move forward with their LAPs and LSGs. Where the Roma-NeT Action Planning Stage changed the way many of these partners worked within their municipalities, the Pilot Development Project of Roma-Net - Roma-NeT II hopes to consolidate this learning and focus on two significant areas to create change:

- Innovation for employability of working-age Roma and
- Communication for change

Working in this focused way, using intensive and interactive workshop methodologies is expected to create social innovationary practices for all six partners and their LSGs. These six partners will continue to share their learnings with others and eventually create a ripple effect with other cities over time, who will be able to draw on innovative and emerging practice to achieve positive integration with Roma communities in the future.

URBACT is a European exchange and learning programme promoting sustainable urban development.

It enables cities to work together to develop solutions to major urban challenges, reaffirming the key role they play in facing increasingly complex societal challenges. It helps them to develop pragmatic solutions that are new and sustainable, and that integrate economic, social and environmental dimensions. It enables cities to share good practices and lessons learned with all professionals involved in urban policy throughout Europe. URBACT is 181 cities, 29 countries, and 5,000 active participants
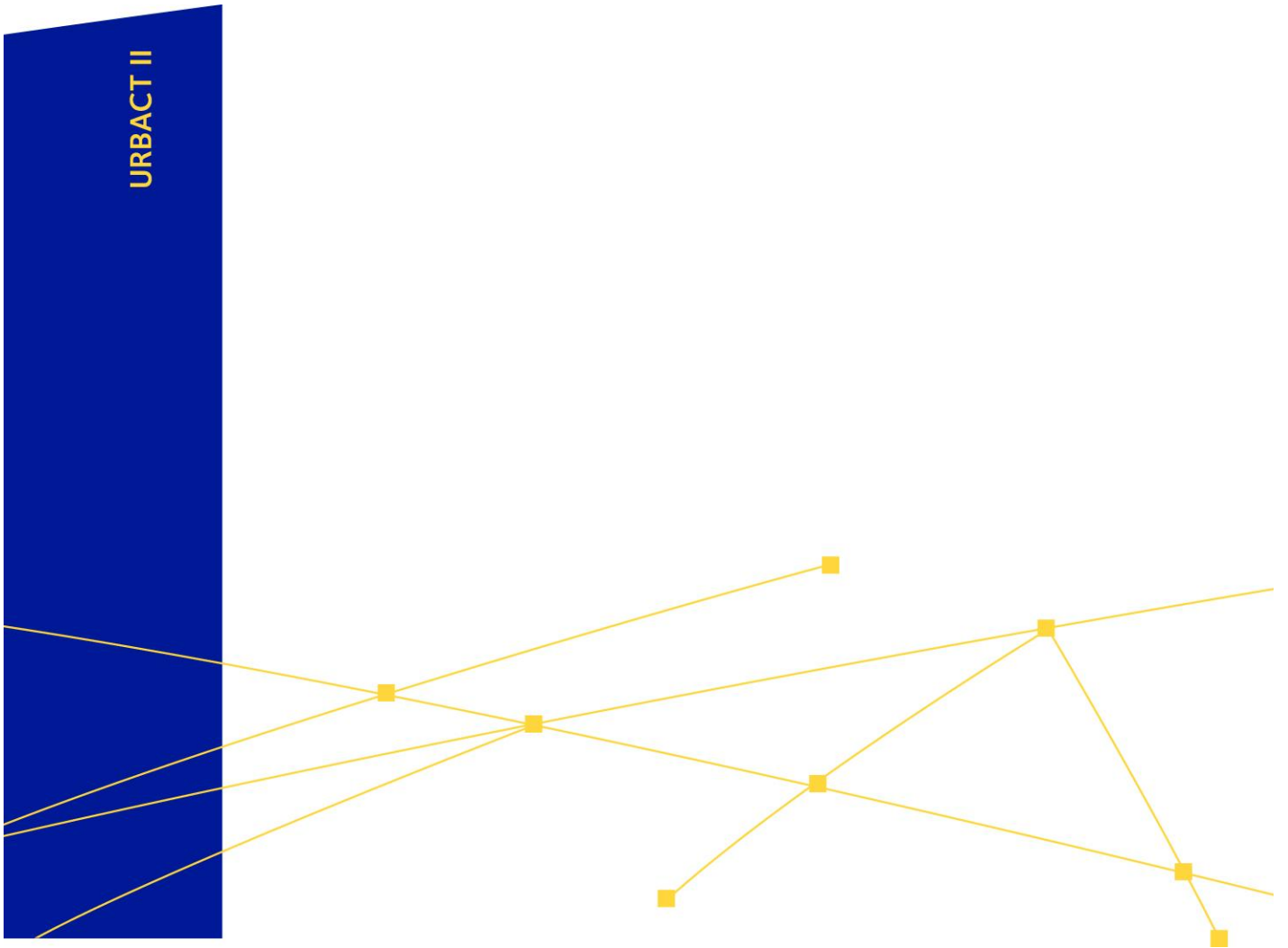
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