

Directorate D: Equality Non-discrimination policies and Roma coordination Unit

QUESTIONNAIRE for Member State (please mention)

on progress in implementing the National Roma Integration Strategy $(NRIS)^{1}$

Please respond (and therefore share with us the results from your own monitoring of the NRIS) by email to <u>JUST-NRCP-COORDINATION@ec.europa.eu</u> <u>by 30th January</u> <u>2015 at the latest</u>.

(1) Dialogue with regional and local authorities

Could you please share information on progress made on the dialogue with and the involvement of local and regional authorities in the implementation of the National Roma Integration Strategy (NRIS) since 2012?

In particular regarding:

- Translating the NRIS into regional and local agenda (e.g. through local action plans);
- Providing financial support to regional and local authorities;
- Supporting the capacity building of regional and local authorities;
- Supporting the exchange of experience and mutual learning between local and regional authorities.

(2) Dialogue with Roma civil society

Could you please share information on progress made on the dialogue with and involvement of civil society and Roma communities in the implementation of the National Roma Integration Strategy (NRIS) since 2012?

In particular regarding:

- Supporting the capacity building of Roma civil society;
- Involving Roma civil society (including youth organisations) in the planning, implementation and monitoring of action plans/measures (e.g. through national platforms, consultations etc.);
- Supporting the involvement of Roma (communities) in the implementation of the NRIS (e.g. by supporting community building efforts of local authorities/civil society).

¹ For the purpose of this questionnaire, the term *National Roma Integration Strategy* also *covers sets of policy measures supporting Roma integration.*

(3) Allocating European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for Roma inclusion in the 2014-2020 period

Could you please share information on the proposed approach followed for utilising European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) in 2014-2020 for the implementation of the National Roma Integration Strategy (NRIS)?

In particular:

- How will the possibilities offered by the ESIF legal framework be utilised (e.g. territorial targeting, community-led local development, and sustainable urban development)? How will an integrated approach be assured (e.g. through multi-fund programmes or mechanisms coordinating separate programmes)?
- Which Operational Programmes if any have chosen the ESF² specific investment priority "socio-economic inclusion of marginalised communities such as the Roma"? What is the total amount allocated to this investment priority?
- Which other relevant ESF, ERDF³ or EAFRD⁴ investment priorities have been selected for specific objectives which include Roma among the main target groups? Which are the Operational Programmes involved? Can other relevant mainstream specific objectives be identified (e.g. health or education)?
- How will ESIF be used to address policy issues raised in Roma-related Country Specific Recommendations (CSRs)?
- What steps are being taken, including amounts available, to enhance implementation compared to 2007-2013 (e.g. strengthening of capacity of local and regional authorities and of civil society to implement projects)?
- Are you able to quantify the total amount of ESIF funds that could potentially be used for Roma integration measures (targeted and mainstream)?

(4) Reinforcing the role of the National Roma Contact Point (NRCP)

Could you please share information on what steps have been taken to reinforce the mandate/resources/coordination role of the National Roma Contact Point since 2012?

In particular:

- What measures have been taken, if necessary, to increase the financial and the human resources available for the National Roma Contact Point so that it can effectively coordinate the cross-sectorial monitoring of Roma integration policies with a view to their implementation?
- *How has the NRCP been / is planned to be involved in decision-making processes regarding the development, funding and implementation of relevant policies?*
- How has the NRCP been/is planned to be involved in the programming and implementation structures of the European Structural and Investment Funds 2014-2020?

² European Social Fund

³ European Regional Development Fund

⁴ European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development

(5) Fighting discrimination effectively

Could you please describe the main measures taken since 2012 to fight discrimination in the four key areas of education, employment, healthcare and housing?

In particular:

- What policies and measures have been put in place to combat segregation at national, regional and local level?
- What measures have been implemented to combat discrimination and prejudice against Roma?
- What steps have been taken to promote the social, economic, political and cultural participation of Roma in society, including at local level?

(6) Monitoring transformation and enabling policy adjustment

Could you please share information on what steps have been taken since 2012 to further develop a robust monitoring system of the National Roma Integration Strategy (NRIS)?

In particular:

- Please, briefly describe the monitoring mechanism and how the different stakeholders are involved in this monitoring structure;
- Please, give examples of key indicators used to monitor progress towards the targets of the NRIS;
- Please, briefly describe how the monitoring is linked to the monitoring of the *European Structural and Investment Funds in the 2014-2020 period.*

(7) Main challenges and successes

Please give an example of a key challenge the NRCP is facing and a key success achieved related to any of the above areas.

(8) Additional information

You are invited to share any additional information or concern (regarding for instance measures taken in response to the assessment by the Commission in its report of June 2013, not mentioned before).