
ROMA - NET

This project promotes the inclusion of Roma people in nine European cities: Budapest (HU), Almería (ES), Bologna (IT), Glasgow (UK), Karvina (CZ), Kosice (SK), Nagykálló (HU), Torrent (ES) and Udine (IT).

Background: Roma-Net was set up as a partnership project between these nine European cities to tackle Roma exclusion. Budapest was the lead partner in the project, which lasted for 36 months. The project evolved around the following three themes:

- active community engagement and empowerment
- integrated and area based approaches to tackling exclusion and segregation
- building a transitional labour market.

Roma-Net was funded by the URBACT II programme.

Activities: activities were carried out on two levels:

local planning and cooperation: in each city, a range of stakeholders came together to form Local Support Groups (LSGs) to develop local action plans. People from a range of services such as education, healthcare, employment, housing, the police, political organisations and importantly local Roma organisations came together to form the LSGs. The LSGs worked on preparing local action plans for Roma integration in their city or neighbourhood.

transnational exchange and learning: two transnational exchange and learning events were organised under each theme, during which partners learned from each other and from thematic experts. They also discussed current and planned actions and fed these into their own local action plans.

Outcomes: the project consortium prepared eight thematic guides on the challenges to Roma inclusion, employability, education, policy, housing, health and social care, Roma movement in Europe and planning and governance for Roma inclusion. The LSGs developed nine local action plans for Roma integration, which are currently being implemented.

The project also highlighted the importance of building broad partnerships, including all stakeholders and establishing sound relationships and synergies to the city administrations. Importantly, the project offered the Roma population and its organisations the means to engage with local authorities. Through stakeholder involvement, stigma and prejudice are decreasing. Finally, the participation in the project has brought the issue of Roma inclusion into the local political agenda.



Transferability: the methodology of developing the local action plans can be used in many other cities.

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For more information see: ec.europa.eu/progress.

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