

Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.2 "Networks of Towns"

Measure 2.3 "Civil Society Projects"

Strand 1 – "European Remembrance"

10 EVENTS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT WITHIN THIS PROJECT:

Event 1

Participation: The event involved 59 citizens, including 38 participants from the city of Isernia (Italy), 5 participants from the city of Rome (Italy), 1 participant from the city of Genova (Italy), 1 participant from the city of Bologna (Italy), 1 participant from the city of Lecce (Italy), 1 participant from the city of Sulmona (Italy), 1 participant from the city of Naples (Italy), 2 participants from the city of Campobasso, 1 participant from the city of Nis (Serbia), 1 participant from the city of Maribor (Slovenia), 1 participant from the city of Barcellona (Spain), 1 participant from the city of Berane (Montenegro), 1 participant from the city of Athens (Greece), 1 participant from the city of Kicevo (Fyrom), 1 participant from the city of Cluj (Romania), 1 participant from the city of Sisak (Croatia), 1 participant from the city of Kyustendil (Bulgaria).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Isernia, Italy, from 26 October 2018 to 27 October 2018.

Description: The aim of the event was to promote a debate on the current life conditions of the Roma minority in Europe, starting from the narration on their culture and traditional trades (including that of carousels, musicians and horse breeders). The most important national media were involved, in order to have a great impact, even indirectly. A further objective was to discuss and illustrate some teaching methods to encourage the scholastic participation of Roma and Sinti pupils, and to provide participants with the basic knowledge on Romani history, culture and language, on integration issues, in order to provide skills that will be useful for the approach with users and students of Roma ethnicity. Representatives of local institutions participated (Mayor of the city of Isernia, Mayor of the city of Campobasso), representatives of national institutions (Italian Ministry of Education and Research) and regional (Molise Region).

Results:

As mentioned, the national and local political authorities, the most important local and national media, local citizenship and the Roma Molise community have been actively involved and sensitized. In addition, experiences and good practices were exchanged: in fact, the representatives of the 10 partner countries illustrated and debated criticalities, peculiarities and good practices in favor of the integration of Roma, Sinti and Gitanos. The target groups have been sensitized, reached directly and indirectly on the project activities, contributing to create counter-narratives and a new perception of Roma and Sinti.

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Event 2

Participation: The event involved 44 citizens, including 44 participants from the city of Rome (Italy).

Location / Dates: The event took place in the city of Rome on November 16, 2018.

Description:

The event, entitled "ROM / Sinti. Centrality of work "redemption" and of mass literacy of Roma pupils". A large group of Sinti giostrai residents met in Rome at an Evangelical Church in the San Basilio district, where for many years it has been a Sinti settlement. They have accepted to take part in the event - or sent communications:- Roberto Fico President of the Chamber, GEMMA TUCCILLO Chief MG Minor Department, Salvatore Geraci Italian Society of Migration Medicine, Selly Kane Manager National CGIL Immigration. Invited people: Internal Ministry (Immigration Department, Civil Rights and Minorities), all the EMBASSIES Of The Balkan Countries From Which The Roms Come, The Government Department UNAR, Ministry Of The Environment (Scrap Metal Register) And Other TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS.

Massimo Converso, Prewsident of Romano Pijats leared of the DREAM project, presented and moderated the workshop.

Results: The participants discussed with regional and local authorities on the following issues: A) Home (and more generally HABITAT, therefore also the micro-areas residential); the needs to recognize the work done by the workers, artisans, giostrai Roma/Sinti workers; B) Regularization of the large mass trades of the Roma / Sinti (recycling, markets, laborers) agricultural sector, involved in construction); the experiences of (legal) used market in Rome for Roma Yugoslavs and Romanians and in Molise of the two professions usually traditional or the Laboratory of Tombolo in Isernia, and of the Cooperative of the horse breeders/traders throughout the Region; C) Perspectives to a real application and integration of the National Law 337/1968 on Traveling Show for the "Sinti Giostrai".

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Evento 3

Participation: The event involved 87 citizens, including 75 citizens from the city of Campobasso (Italy), 1 citizen from the city of Rome (Italy), 2 citizens from the city of Isernia (Italy), 2 citizens from the city of Busso (Italy), 1 citizen from the city of Ferrazzano (Italy), 1 citizen from the city of Taro (Italy), 1 citizen from the city of San Giuliano del Sannio (Italy), 1 citizen from the city of Lupeni (Romania), 1 citizen from the city of Vinchiatturo (Italy), 1 citizen from the city of Cerrepiccola (Italy), 1 citizen from the city of Prizren (Kosovo).

Location / Dates: The event took place in the city of Campobasso, Italy, on November 29, 2018.

Description: The aim of the event was to promote the training of teachers and students on the subject of Romani culture and language, and to raise awareness among participants about the problems of the Roma and Sinti minority in Italy, including in particular the need to regularize new jobs such as that collection of iron and recycling) and the legal protection of ancient trades (such as that of giostrai and horse breeders). It should be noted that the Romanì language is not currently recognized by the Italian State Law 482/1999, which indeed only excludes Romanès from protection as a linguistic minority of those who speak it and preserves, by handing down, the precious historical-cultural memory. The teachers of the Comprehensive Institute of Ovidio of Campobasso (classes II and III), representatives of local authorities (Councilor for social policies Alessandra Salvatore, Councilor for Culture Lidia De Benedittis), representatives of the local Roma and Sinta community (mediators and young Roma students) took part in the training day.

Results:

Local political authorities, the most important local media, local citizenship (students and teachers, in particular, intervened in large numbers) and the Roma community in Molise were actively involved and made aware. In particular, training was provided on the cultural lineages of the national and local Roma community (which has peculiar features, referable to the cultural and linguistic area of the Roma from Abruzzo), on the ancient Romani language. Moreover, the audience has been sensitized about the contemporary problems of the integration, job inclusion, social and cultural development of the Roma.

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Event 4

Participation: The event involved about 61 citizens, including about 32 participants from the city of Kyustendil, and 30 participants from other Bulgarian cities (Sofia, Blagoevgrad, Dupnitsa, Pernik, and other).

Location / Dates: The event took place in the city of Kyustendil, 8th April 2019

Description:

The event took place at the Conference hall of Simona Garden Hotel, Kyustendil. About 62 people attended the event, among them representatives of Roma community, the Academia (2 people from universities and Bulgarian academy of science), representatives of the local government (5 people), the NGO sector (15 people), etc. 8 journalists from local, regional and central media came to cover the event.

Results:

The event was divided into 4 sections. During the first section children from the Roma neighborhood performed traditional Roma dances, songs, and stories. The other three parts were dedicated to different aspects of Roma culture, Roma traditional heritage, and the challenges of the contemporary societies. Reports from currently conducted research projects were presented and discussed.

Media coverage: information about the DREAM project and the national event was published in 2 regional TV canals, several news sites, the local radio station and the Bulgarian national telegraph agency.

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Event 5

Participation: The event entitled "Fighting against prejudices concerning Roma people and promoting intercultural dialogue in Romania" was attended by 56 participants from Romania (the city of Cluj and Sibiu, the rural commune of Unirea), Italy (Rome), Spain (Barcelona), Croatia (Zagreb), Serbia (Nis), Greece (Athens), Montenegro (Berane), Slovenia (Maribor) and North Macedonia (Kicevo).

Location/ Dates: The event took place in the rural commune of Unirea (Avram Iancu Elementary School), Alba county, Romania, on May 29, 2019.

Description: The aims of this event were: 1. to fight against prejudices concerning Roma people; 2. to promote dialogue and collaboration on Roma issues between various institutional partners (mainly NGOs) from Romania, Italy, Spain, Croatia, Serbia, Greece, Bulgaria, Montenegro, Slovenia and North Macedonia; 3. to disseminate good practices concerning the fight against prejudices among the local teaching team from Unirea and to learn from their experience of working with Roma children. The event was divided in two parts: 1. The first part included the screening of a documentary film on the Roma deportation to Transnistria based on oral testimonies from survivors and a roundtable with the participants entitled: "How to enhance the social inclusion of Roma? Discussing teaching experience in Romanian schools"; 2. In the second part the seminar was focused on the input from the international partners who conveyed their approaches during the roundtable entitled: "How to combat Roma discriminations and social exclusion? Learning from various European case studies?"

Results: NGO activists, researchers, teachers, students from Romania (the city of Cluj and Sibiu, the rural commune of Unirea), Italy (Rome), Spain (Barcelona), Croatia (Zagreb), Serbia (Nis), Greece (Athens), Montenegro (Berane), Slovenia (Maribor), North Macedonia (Kicevo) have been introduced to the issue of Roma discrimination in Romanian schools and they had the opportunity to discuss the good practices found in the Avram Iancu Elementary school from the commune of Unirea. The participants paid respect to the victims of the deportation to Transnistria by the screening of a documentary film based on oral testimonies of the victims. The documentary film was discussed with the participants, who asked questions about how the film was realized. Moreover, through this screening the participants had the possibility to grasp where the politics of exclusion and discrimination are leading to. During the first roundtable teachers from the Unirea elementary school provided to the international partners a complex input about their experience of working with Roma children and emphasized the problems that hinder their better integration into the community. The NGO activists asked questions about the the social and economic status of Roma in Romania, in general, and about the problems of the Roma community in the village of Unirea, in particular.

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Event 6

Participation: The event involved 58 members, including participants from Greece, Italy, Serbia, FYROM, Spain, Bulgaria, Montenegro, Croatia, Romania and Slovenia.

Location / Dates: The event was held in Athens, Greece on July 9, 2019.

Description: International Conference in Athens, for the project "Dream: Developing a respectful Europe against Roma discrimination and social exclusion", Project number: 601619-CITIZ-1-12018-1-IT-CITIZ-CIV, took place on the Day center of IASIS NGO, and participated 58 participants, including the members of the consortium. The event started at 13.00 with a welcome speech from the Representative of the Special Secretariat for the Social Integration of Roma and from the Training Manager of IASIS NGO Ilias Michail Rafail. At 14.00 the Administrator of IASIS RnD department, Nick Bountalis presented video interviews of the Roma people who are living in the area of Aspropirgos, in Athens, in which they described the ROMA living conditions in Greece and the difficulties faced during their everyday routine. Also, after these presentations, the participants had the chance to discuss about the history of Roma, their origins, their everyday life in Greece and the similarities of these conditions among the other partner countries.

Then, after the lunch break and until 17.00pm was implemented a round table discussion, organized by the "Community Center of the Municipality of Athens - Roma integration department". During the round table, the participants had the chance to exchange and share their experiences, personal perspectives and opinions regarding specific thematic Units suggested by the organizers of the round table.

Finally, Oriental dancer, Nasia Misisian gave performed a traditional gipsy dance show, representing the cultural ethics of Roma women in Greece, who learn oriental since they are very young.

Results:

The results that came up during the International conference showed that:

- The similarities among the involved European countries related to the living and working conditions.
- The difficulties faced during their everyday routine cover a wider spectrum of contexts.
- The lack of services and benefits make their daily life even worse.
- The non-equal treatment from the locals and the stereotypical behavior is very usual phenomenon.
- The most common social issues among the partner countries are the lack of education and work chances and the huge gap regarding bureaucracy issues.

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Event 7

Participation:

The event involved 50 citizens, including participants 50 from Maribor, and the rest from all over Slovenia.

Location / Dates:

The event took place in Ljubljana, from 20:00 to 22:00 on 8th April 2019

Description:

The Association EPEKA is a well-known social enterprise in the city of Maribor, where we have successfully co-operated with the Roma community for a while. We have realized there was a shortage of activities in the capital of Slovenia, Ljubljana, where we have other projects, but not Roma-related ones. On the occasion of the International Roma Day we try to bring in international guests, so we have previously hosted Spanish and Romanian bands, this year we have hosted a concert of an Austrian trio, Diknu Schneeberger Trio. The main point of bringing international guests is to introduce foreign Roma culture to Slovenians, so they realize that Roma culture is not just one homogeneous culture, but instead a very diversified and rich one all across Europe.

Results:

We have organized a concert by Diknu Schneeberger Trio, a trio of Roma and Sinti descent. The concert served as both, introduction of the Roma culture to the people that don't necessarily come in contact with it on a daily basis - thus the concert was held in the Cankar Center, the largest culture center in Slovenia - and as bringing together of Roma community with ambassadors, decision-makers, employees of the public sector i. e. people that work with Roma, employees in social services. Before and after the concert there was a get-together where people could mingle and have a conversation with people they don't otherwise meet in such an informal environment.

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Participation: 31 people attended the event in total. 16 participants from Bulgaria, including from the cities of Sofia, Kuystendil, Plovdiv, Pernik, etc.

Location БЪЛГАРИЯ / Dates: The event took place in the city of Sofia, Cristal palace hotel, on September 13, 2019.

Description:

The international event took place on 13 Sept 2019. Participants from Italy, Spain, Greece, Romania, Serbia, North Macedonia, Slovenia, and Bulgaria attended the summit. The event was opened by Prof. Todor Chobanov, deputy mayor of Sofia, responsible for cultural and educational affairs. Ms. Martina Pavone, representative of the Italian Embassy in Sofia also visited the event. Ms. Yachimovska, one of the most prominent and respected experts in the field of education in Bulgaria, also attended the event.

During the event best practices for Roma inclusion and empowerment were presented and controversial issues related to EU and national public policies were discussed.

- Petya Zaynelova and Rositza Milkova from the Trust for Social Achievements presented important initiatives in the field of early childhood development.
- Prof. Penov from "Land – source of incomes" foundation shared a model for successful Roma enterprise.
- Radost Chaprasova from ARETE foundation presented a Roma educational network spread across the country.

Results:

Best practices for Roma inclusion and empowerment were presented and discussed among representatives of different stake holders – NGOs, local government, public institutions, etc. Strong and durable networks were developed among the participants and representatives of public bodies. The event was attended by many decision-makers and stake-holders, among which: Prof. Todor Chobanov, who is currently deputy mayor of Sofia, responsible for cultural and educational issues and is former deputy minister of culture, Mrs. Yachimovska – Educational expert, Prof. Ivanov from the Thracian University, Prof. Georgiev from the Municipality of Plovdiv, Mrs. Chaprazova who is Member of the Board of Fulbright.

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Event 9

Participation: 62 people participated in the event, of which 30 from Zagreb (Croatia), 2 from Lanciano (Italy), 1 from Riga (Lettonia), 2 from Madrid (Spain), 1 from Amsterdam (Holland), 1 from Turkey, 1 from Bucarest (Romania), 1 from Clicay (France), 1 from Kicevo (FYROM), 4 from Prizren (Kosovo), 1 from Transtein Nevo (Croatia), 2 from Dusseldorf (Germany), 1 from Barcellona (Spain), 1 from Sibiu (Romania), 1 from Rome (Italy), 2 from Maribor (Slovenia), 1 from Nis (Serbia), 1 from Athens (Greece), 1 from Kulsayec (Croatia), 1 from Sisnc (Croatia), 2 from Ljubiana (Slovenia), 1 from Rakovec (Croatia), 1 from Pula (Croatia), 1 from Bistrinci (Croatia).

Location/Dates: The project DREAM event in Zagreb lasted for two days on 4th and 5th November 2019.

Description: The event was organized by the Croatian Romani Union "KALI SARA", project partner, in collaboration with Mr. Veljko Kajtazi, MP, representative of the Roma ethnic minority in the Croatian Parliament. The working part of the event was held on Nov 4th in Matica Hrvatska, the oldest independent, non-governmental national institution. Lectures and presentations were given, focused on the affirmation of the Romani Language in Croatia during the last decade (2009 - 2019), with the special subtopic: *Introduction and implementation of the course of "Romani language and culture" by model C into the Croatian educational system*. Several topics were discussed as well: the standardization of the Romani language at the European level, the equation of the Romani language with other national minority languages in Europe, publishing of the literature in the Romani language, the institutional support for the Romani language, the creation of Romani dictionaries, etc.

Many foreign experts on Romani language and Roma activist were present and contributed with their countries' experience in promoting and preserving the Romani language (Romania, Bulgaria, Netherlands, France, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Turkey, Austria, Serbia, etc.)

The plenary lecture was given by Mr. Veljko Kajtazi, member of Parliament and author of the first Croatian-Romani dictionary, published in 2009, and the first proponent of the initiative for the international recognition of the World Day of Romani language.

Many of the lectures were given in Romani, with a translation in Croatian and English so the participants had an opportunity to hear different language variants.

The participants of the DREAM PROJECT also met together to discuss and compare the situation regarding the Romani language in their respective countries and, as well as discuss their obligations towards the end of the project and the next event in Rome.

The program continued in the evening in the Museum of contemporary art with the performance by the Romani theater from Prizren (Kosovo) "Jemayli Berisha" with the monodrama „Panta Rhej“ and the concert by the „Amala“ group from Slovenia.

The 5th of November was reserved for the central ceremony of the World Day of Romani Language which started in the morning with the official naming of the Park of 5th November in the center of Zagreb. The unveiling of the plate was done by Mr Milan Bandić, mayor of Zagreb and Mr Veljko Kajtazi, MP. The central celebration was held in the National Home Palace and included representatives of the Croatian government, local government, City of Zagreb, members of the Croatian Parliament, foreign guests, including Mr. Normund Rudevics, president of The International Romani Union, media and many others.

The whole event involved several hundred citizens, while listed are only those who actively participated in the event. Foreign participants included guests from Italy (Lanciano, Rome), Spain (Madrid, Barcelona), Latvia (Riga), Netherland (Amsterdam), Turkey (Mersin), Romania (Bucharest, Sibiu), Germany (Dusseldorf), Serbia (Niš), Slovenia (Maribor, Ljubljana), while the Croatian participants came from Zagreb, Sisak, Čakovec, Pula, Belišće, and so on.

Results: The main aim of the event was to give the participants of the Dream project an insight into the current status of the Romani Language in Croatia and Europe, to provide them with a chance to meet the world's leading experts in Romani and to include them in the largest celebration of the World Day of Romani Language in a place where the holiday itself was created ten years ago. Project partners participated in the series of lectures and presentations regarding the affirmation and preservation of the Romani Language held by the leading experts in the field. They also had a chance to hear first-hand experiences of the process in different countries, especially the attention given to the importance of implementing Romani language into school curricula. A special attention was given to the history of the celebration of the World Day of the Romani Language by the initial creator of the holiday, Mr. Veljko Kajtazi.

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Event 10

Participation: The event involved 29 people, 9 from the city of Rome (Italy), 1 from the city of Milan (Italy), 2 from the city of Reggio Calabria (Italy), 1 from the city of Kyustendil (Bulgaria), 1 from the city of Sofia (Bulgaria), 1 from the city of Zagreb (Croatia), 1 from the city of Kicevo (FYROM), 1 from the city of Foggia (Italy), 2 from three city of Athens (Greece), 1 from the city of Nis (Serbia), 1 from the city of Berane (Montenegro), 1 from the city of Maribor (Slovenia), 2 from the city of Naples (Italy), 1 from the city of Catania (Italy), 1 from the city of Genova (Italy), 1 from the city of Cluj (Romania), 1 from the city of Barcellona (Spain).

Location/Dates: The event took place in Rome on November 28, 2019 at the seat of Esercito della Salvezza.

Description: On November 28th the final event of the DREAM project was held in Rome. The 29 people who participated discussed jointly the results of the project and the prospects for the maintenance and future development of the cooperation network created during the project. The representatives of 3 diverse Italian Ministries (Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research represented by Dr. Di Nallo; Ministry of Justice represented by Dr. Giuseppina Barberis, Ministry of Internal Affairs represented by Dr. Cristina Formichi). In particular, all the project partners presented the activities organized in their respective countries in the context of DREAM, discussing their impact on citizens. The discussion then focused on the current problems of Roma and Sinti people in Europe. From the exchange of information on the objectives and results of the National Strategy for Roma Inclusion in the countries to which the DREAM partners belong, and on the good practices of the DREAM partner institutions, it emerged that two are currently the biggest challenges that Europe is facing for the integration of this minority: occupational integration, with the recognition of new professions carried out by the Roma such as the recycling, collection and reuse of old and abandoned objects; the protection of ancient and fragile crafts, such as the breeding of horses, which express the cultural heritage of this people but which could also be made more vital and up-to-date begging, for example, the conversion to new and socially useful activities, such as , the hippotherapy. Moreover, a further aspect that emerged concerned the problems of scholastic insertion of young Roma and the problem of the non-recognition, in Italy, of Roma as a linguistic and cultural minority. With reference to this aspect, the contribution given to the event by Senator Felice Besostri, who took part in the works of the entire morning, was central. father of the legends in linguistic and cultural matters in Italy (Law 482/1999), the Senator explained the reasons that led to the exclusion of Roma from this protection of law, reaffirming however the need to fight for Roma and Sinti to be recognized as minorities linguistic and cultural heritage present on the Italian territory. The inclusion in the protection of the law would allow to be able to prepare measures of social and professional inclusion dedicated to this minority. In conclusion, the afternoon session was devoted to discuss with the representatives of the 3 Ministries participating in the event, about criticalities in the education, professional and social inclusion of Roma people, and how to promote a transnational cooperation, starting from the network of association created by DREAM in order to propose and test innovative solutions to overcome such problems.

Results: The participants from 10 different countries, were able to exchange opinions and information, succeeding in obtaining training on inclusion practices carried out at the national level by the DREAM partners, as well as on the specific problems of insertion of Roma and Sinti in each of the partner countries of the project . Moreover, a very important result was the comparison between 3 of the most important Italian Ministries, with representatives of the other 9 countries that participated in the project. At the end of the work it was decided that to establish the network of Institutions and entities that participated in DREAM, as a permanent network for the exchange of practices and innovation of Roma inclusion methodologies in Europe, with the direct participation of representatives of Ministries that attended the events. Among the diverse proposition for future development of the activities carried out during the project, there is the intention to transfer the results of DREAM applying with the same partnership, enriched by the Institutional cooperation with the Italian Ministries, to other European Programmes focused on the inclusion of Roma and Sinti.