



UNIUNEA EUROPEANĂ



GUVERNUL ROMÂNIEI
MINISTERUL MUNCII, FAMILIEI
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AMPOSDRU



Fondul Social European
POSDRU 2007-2013



Instrumente Structurale
2007-2013



GUVERNUL ROMÂNIEI
MINISTERUL MUNCII, FAMILIEI
ȘI PROTECȚIEI SOCIALE
ORPOSDRU REGIUNEA VEST

Newsletter

NO. 17

The project "Equality through Difference. Roma Women's Access on the Labor Market" promotes social inclusion of Roma women and young individuals by acknowledging their particular needs and interests. It is funded by the European Social Fund, Operational Program for Human Resources Development 2007 -2013. "Invest in people!" Priority axis and domain field "Equal opportunities and respect."

The project runs for three years, starting in November 2008. The following partner organizations contribute to its implementation: Roma Women's Association "For Our Children" from Timisoara, Desire Foundation from Cluj, Parudimos Association from Timisoara, National Agency for Roma,

the Municipality of Timisoara, Autonomy Foundation (Budapest).

Project activities take place on local, multiregional, national and transnational levels.

Some activities are informative (provide information for Roma communities, or sensitize public awareness on problems encountered by Roma in the domain of labor). Other activities formative (aiming to have a direct impact on target groups we work with, and on the degree our society knows and acknowledges the reality of ethnic and gender discrimination, and the importance of eliminating it. Research and social intervention mutually supports each other.

Newsletter No. 17 presents information on the International Conference organized in Timisoara between June 30 - July 2, 2011 and the public debate organized on the 23rd of June in Oradea, Bihor county



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FEMEILOR ȚIGĂNCI
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FUNDAȚIA DESIRE



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TIMIȘOARA



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6.3. Public debate about the project results

On the 23rd of June 2011 the of Desire Foundation, in collaboration with ANR organized a public debate in Oradea, to present the results of the Equality through difference project. Representatives from the mayor offices from the county of Bihor, representatives of NGOs, the press from Oradea attended this event. For those present materials of the project were distributed, posters, leaflets, DVD of the project films. On the behalf of Desire Foundation the project coordinator (from Desire) Harbula Hajnalka, researcher Vincze Eniko and the expert on public relations Noemi Magyari were present. Cristian Hetea, the territorial representative of ANR was also attending this debate. Overall the event was attended by 22 people.



Activity 6.4. International Conference Timisoara

The Roma Women's Association 'For Our Children' from Timisoara and the team of the "Equality through difference: Roma women's access on labor market" project had the pleasure to host representatives of European organizations, the Romanian Government, organizations and institutions from Romania and abroad, people directly involved in policy on equal opportunities at the International Conference: Roma women for equality that took place in Timisoara, Hotel 2000, between June 30 - July 2, 2011.

The conference aimed to promote the results of the "Equality through difference: Roma women's access on labor market" project.

The meeting in Timisoara has received great interest, evidenced by strong participation of representatives of European organizations, the Romanian Government, organizations and institutions from Romania and abroad, people directly involved in policy on equal opportunities and strategies for inclusion of Roma.

The three-day conference brought the realization of interdisciplinary dialogue, interregional and transnational issues of social inclusion of Roma through projects co-financed by the European Social Fund. Workshops, round table discussions, informal discussions have reached the most important issues covered in the conference agenda, including: social inclusion of Roma women, problems, strategies and outcomes, structural funds and projects for Roma,

Roma access to employment, work, decent employment, and civic activism of Roma women, promoting equal opportunities. A unique moment of the event held at Hotel 2000 in Timisoara was the Romani cultural evening during which over 100 participants had the opportunity to hear authentic music, hear the artistic productions of various genres performed by young Roma, to watch a fashion parade of creations inspired by Roma.

The conference concluded that projects that promote gender equality, combating prejudice and discrimination, employability and access to education are likely to succeed if systemic factors are applied, with the direct involvement of representatives from the local and central level. Roma and non-Roma civil society representatives remain united in activities supported by the European organisms, constantly engaged in this long process.



Conference agenda

ROMANI WOMEN FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

June 30 - July 2, 2011

Organized within the project

"Equality through difference. Roma women's access to the labor market"

29 June 2011
participants

Arrival of the

30 June 2011

10.00 - 10.40 Opening speeches on promoting projects for Roma

Philippe Hatt, Head of Unit F 5 (Romania, Bulgaria, Malta) in DG Employment, European Commission

Adriana Toma, OIRPOSDRU Timisoara

Moderator: Letiția Mark, Roma Women's Association for Our Children, Timisoara

10.40 - 11.50 Introducing the project "Equality through difference"

Letiția Mark, president of the Roma Women's Association for Our Children:
Mission and objectives

Enikő Vincze, president Foundation Desire:
Research activities and publications

Theofild Lazăr, assistant project manager:
Activities for social inclusion

Leonard Bebi, president Association Parudimos, Timisoara: *Activities for social inclusion*

Ilie Dincă, president National Agency for Roma

Anna Csongor, president Foundation Autonomía, Budapest: *Cross border learning within the project - the examples of Hungarian Roma initiatives*

Moderator: Hajnalka Harbula, project coordinator, Foundation Desire, Cluj

11.50 - 12.10 Coffee break

12.10 - 13.40 Setting the framework: Roma, women and equal opportunities

Ákos Topolánszky, rapporteur for the European Economic and Social Committee, Section for Employment, Social Affairs and Citizenship, Budapest: *Roms - Societal empowerment and integration*

Crina Morteau, ERSTE Foundation, Bucharest: *Early marriages and Roma women*

Enikő Vincze, Foundation Desire, Cluj: *Culture, rights, and Roma women for equal opportunities*

Discussions

Moderator: Theofild Lazăr, Roma Women's Association for Our Children

13.40 - 15.40 Lunch break

16.00 - 18.00 Structural funds and projects for Roma

Oana Ciurea DG Employment, European Commission: *European Social Fund and Roma projects*

Ilie Dincă, president of the National Agency for Roma: *Projects on employment and social economy implemented by the National Agency for Roma, Romania*

Carmen Brici, organization Romani Criss, Bucharest: *Projects for improving the access to education of Roma children from Romania*

Teodora Krumova, Center Amalipe, Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria: *Structural funds and projects for Roma. The Bulgarian example*

David Mark, president Civic Alliance of Roma from Romania: *The project "Equality through difference. Roma women's access to the labor market" in the context of Romanian projects funded by the European Social Funds*

Discussions

Moderator: Gyula Kozák, ISPMN, Cluj

19.00 Dinner and Romani cultural evening

Towards recognition through fashion, Romani Design Budapest Hungary

Coordinator: Leonard Bebi, Association Parudimos, Timisoara

1 July 2011

10.30 - 12.00 The social inclusion of Roma women: problems, strategies and results

Lídia Balogh, MONA - Foundation for the Women of Hungary, Budapest: *Current*

Issues in Europe Regarding the Social and Political Inclusion of Romani Women

Kitti Baracsi, Colorful Pearls Association, Pécs: *Women's empowerment through networking*

Montserrat Sanchez Aroca, Drom Kotar Mestipen, Barcelona: *Roma women's organizing in Spain*

Discussions

Moderator: Carmen Gheorghe, Together Agency, Bucharest

12.00 - 12.20 Coffee break

12.20 - 13.50 Researches regarding the access of Roma to employment/ decent work/ labor market

Gyula Kozák, researcher on the project Equality through difference. Roma women's access to the labor market, Foundation Desire, Cluj: *Local labor market recruitment and job opportunities for Roma*

Sebihana Skenderovska, National Roma Centrum, Kumanovo, Republic of Macedonia: *Access to labor market and inequalities faced by Romani women*

Carmen Gheorghe, Together Agency, Bucharest: *Forms of representation of the rights of Roma women on labor market*

Discussions

Moderator: Raluca Popa, UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

14.00 - 16.00 Lunch break

16.00 - 17.30 Roundtable discussion: Romani women and civic activism

Discussants: Letiția Mark, AFT, Timișoara; Crina Morteanu, ERSTE Foundation, Bucharest; Rosemary Kostic Cisneros, Drom Kotar Mestipen, Barcelona; Teodora Krumova, Center Amalipe, Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria; Sebihana Skenderovska, National Roma Centrum, Kumanovo, Republic of Macedonia; Violetta Zentai, CEU CPS Budapest Hungary.

Moderator: Enikő Vincze, Foundation Desire, Cluj

17.30 - 19.00 Cultural event

Nevi Sara Kali. Roma Women's Journal (Letiția Mark, AFT; Enikő Vincze, Foundation Desire; Anita Czinkóczi, Open Society Roma Initiatives, Budapest; authors' talks)

Film screening: *Luptând pentru demnitate* (Striving for dignity), film of the project, 2010

19.30 Dinner

2 July 2011

10.00 - 11.50 The promotion of equal opportunities

Violetta Zentai, Director CEU Center for Policy Studies, Budapest: *Intersectionality in policies for equal opportunities*

Raluca Popa, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, Bratislava: *United Nations and Women's Empowerment*

Natasha Lamoreux, Masters of Arts
Candidate, Human Rights and Humanitarian
Assistance

Center for Global Affairs, New York
University

Selena Vasile, MMFPS, Bucharest: *The
Ministry of Labor, Family and Social
Protection, the Directorate Equal
Opportunities between Women and Men:
activities and results*

Discussions

*Moderator: Crina Morteau, ERSTE
Foundation, Bucharest*

11.50 - 12.10 Coffee break

**12.10 - 13.00 Conclusions and conference
closing**

The organizing team

13.00 - Lunch

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Title: Equality through Difference. Roma Women' Access on the Labor Market.

Material Editor: Roma Women's Association "For Our Children" and Desire Foundation

Release Date: June 2011

"This material does not necessarily reflect the position of the European Union or Romanian Government."

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