

Human Dimension Implementation Meeting 2017

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WORKING SESSION 8

HUNGARY – Ministry of Human Capacities

Tolerance and non-discrimination

The Hungarian National Social Inclusion Strategy is one of the basic strategies on fighting against poverty, social exclusion and inequality. The strategy focuses on **people living in extreme poverty, poor children and Roma people**.

The key elements of the strategy are the complex approach and the cross-sector cooperation. The areas of intervention cover all the important areas from child welfare, education, employment, healthcare, housing, territorial cohesion, awareness rising and fight against discrimination.

There are civil society organizations, churches, municipalities, self-governments of minorities involved in various public funded inclusion programs. Cooperation and consultation with civil society has great importance for us.

There are several forums of partnership operated under governmental bodies such as **Roma Coordination Council** that has been working since 2011 to ensure a forum for dialogue and cooperation between governmental bodies, civil organizations and churches on measures aimed at strengthening the inclusion of Roma people. I can also mention the **Antisegregation-Round** table which is comprised of professionals active in practice in the field of the integrated education **or the Human Rights Roma Sub-Group**, with the main task of monitoring the assertion of human rights in Hungary.

I am not able to represent to all measures of the strategy but **let me highlight three:**

Firstly:

A Professional support system was established and legislative framework was set out to introduce a new system of preparing **local equal opportunity plans**. Nowadays more than 3100 municipalities have local equal opportunity plan. Planned based Programmes for local inclusion are aimed at **outreaching and involving the disadvantaged people, disadvantaged groups, especially Roma people**.

Secondly:

Every child counts, but most help is needed for those who live in the worst conditions in order to achieve better social status. **The Sure Start Children's Centres** are to provide help for young children living in extreme poverty, struggling with severe socialization deficiencies by involving their parents in developing their skills. Now 112 Sure Start Children's Centres operate in the most disadvantaged settlements' of Hungary.

Thirdly:

An important development in the field of education is that since 2012 the Roma-gypsy culture is included in the National Core Curriculum. So every pupil learns about the Roma and minorities' culture and history during their elementary and secondary studies in particular attention what happened during the Second World War.

And finally let me share some words about the importance of living conditions of the Roma people. The elimination of segregation in life situations requires the reduction of the disadvantages that have been deepening for generation, in the access to employment, education, community, housing and other services. The settlement development is based on the continuous presence of the professionals (settlement type social work). The most urgent problem in the field of housing Roma people that needs to be solved is to improve the situation of those, who living in the segregated areas. Until **2020** we implement measures **at every 7-th segregated areas** to improve the living conditions of those, who live there.

Thank you for your attention!