

In order to ensure the commitment to improve the situation of Roma the *Action Plan to support Roma population for 2011 – 2015* was approved by the Government on 8 July 2011. The main objectives of the Action Plan refers to the key seven priority areas: 1) promoting services social-community mediators, 2) education, 3) employment and economic welfare, 4) health and social security; 5) culture and media; 6) public administration, public order and documentation; 7) housing.

The monitoring of the Action Plan implementation is taking place through the *Inter-ministerial technical group* to which experts from the competent institutions, NGOs and development partners are members.

At the time being, one of the main achievements represents *the institutionalization from January 2013 of Roma community mediators*. Their role is to facilitate communication between Roma communities and public local authorities, to ensure a better access to available public services in the area of health, education, labour and social assistance.

In March 2014 a *Study on the Situation of Romani women and girls in the Republic of Moldova* was presented by the UN Women, UNDP and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Its purpose has been to provide empirical documentation of the overall situation of Romani women and girls in the Republic of Moldova and to identify opportunities for their empowerment. The data of the Report in fields such as education, health, migration, employment and living standards are used for the elaboration, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes which aim at improving the situation of Roma population, integration and inclusion of this ethnic group, elimination of existing discrimination, and also for reporting on the commitments of the Government of the Republic of Moldova in the field of human rights.

In the local elections that took place in 2015, **each fifth mayor in the country is woman**. After the 2015 local elections, 183 women had access to the mayor of the village; 17% more than in the 2011 local elections. For the first time in the Republic of Moldova three Roma women have been elected as local councilors.