



DECADE OF
ROMA
INCLUSION
2005-2015

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BASIC INFORMATION ON THE SITUATION OF THE ROMA MINORITY

Please provide any data, including where possible disaggregated data (by age, sex, etc.), collected in 2012, concerning:

- *Estimated total number and proportion of the Roma population in the country;*

As noted in previous progress reports, regarding the statistical data on socio-demographic variables on the Spanish Roma population, there is an issue of particular importance: the data set belonging to a group about race, ethnicity, sex, religion or other economic or social circumstances, are considered as **protected data**, so these variables do not appear in government statistics of population, employment, education, social protection, or households. And there is not an official census with data regarding ethnic origin.

Having said that, we could say that, currently, **the Spanish Roma population stands at around 725,000-750,000**; figures that have been used by European institutions in their estimates on the Roma populations for the whole of Europe. However, as pointed out, certain caution must be observed with respect to these figures as the real size of the population is not accurately known, with estimates of overall figures having been made using a variety of methods (projections from previous studies, in addition to local data being calculated in a number of ways, studies on housing conditions that did not consider Roma people who do not live in densely Roma populated areas, etc.). Therefore, **estimates may range from 500,000 up to 1,000,000 people.**¹

- *Number of Roma living under the poverty line and the proportion to the overall population.*

In terms of the social situation, the Roma profile is heterogeneous and diverse; it is a common error to associate a given ethnic group to situations of material deprivation, social exclusion or self-exclusion. Many Roma people enjoy medium to high socio-economic levels and are fully integrated into society. Moreover, a substantial amount of Roma have seen progress in the last decade, although they still manifest, to varying degrees, social shortcomings and inequalities with respect to the rest of the population. Lastly, a third, minority sector exists, comprising the severely excluded who have seen little progress in terms of their social inclusion. It must be taken into consideration that the current negative economic climate and deterioration of employment in Spain is taking hold throughout the general population, but particularly so for socially vulnerable population groups, as is the case for many Roma people; it

¹ Laparra, M. (coord.) (2007): *Informe sobre la situación social y tendencias de cambio en la población gitana. Una primera aproximación*. Madrid, Ministerio de Trabajo y Asuntos Sociales.



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is essential that social inclusion processes for these people receive continued support in order to avoid stalling or even regression.

1. INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR ROMA INCLUSION AND INTEGRATION

• *Please list the main official policy documents governing the inclusion and integration of Roma, including Decade Action Plan and National Roma Integration Strategy; please provide links to online documents.*

The Spanish administrative framework is characterized by a high level of decentralization that has occurred in the last 30 years. Autonomous governments are well equipped in key areas for social inclusion of the most disadvantaged groups, such as in education, healthcare and social services. Local entities are also well prepared in terms of citizens' safety, housing, social services management and cultural activities, with some being shared by all three administrative levels. In the last 30 years, public authorities of all levels of government have put the social inclusion of disadvantaged Roma on their agenda. This dynamic has contributed to the achievement of some significant milestones, although there are still great challenges ahead. The focus has been forming from the balance and complementary nature of inclusive social policies and specific programmes for the Roma people (in line with the Common Basic Principles on Roma Inclusion no. 2: "Explicit but not exclusive targeting" and no. 4 "Aiming for the mainstream").

The development of the welfare state by making education, healthcare and non-contributory pensions universal, as well as the strengthening of unemployment protection systems, the consolidation of public social service systems (including income support or minimum wage), social housing policies, etc., have had a positive impact on living conditions for many Roma who have benefitted from said measures not due to being Roma, but due to being at a greater social disadvantage. Government plans in terms of employment, social inclusion, etc., in the last ten years have included explicit reference to Roma,² which has allowed efforts, best practice and greater cooperation to all fall in line. Likewise, in relation to the use of EU resources, the 1990s saw a surge in innovative initiatives specifically geared to Roma, under the framework of the Horizon and Integra Community Initiatives of the European Social Fund (ESF), which culminated in the inclusion of specific targets and measures in terms of the Roma in the Anti-Discrimination Operational Programme (ADOP) for 2000-2006, which continued in the period 2007-2013.³

² For example, the National Social Inclusion Plan in Spain 2008-2010 included specific measures for the Roma population such as the adoption of a specific, state-wide action plan and autonomous plans, as well as the development of the functions of the State Roma Council.

³ These measures and targets fell under the *Acceder* Programme, managed until now by the Fundación Secretariado Gitano.



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As has been indicated above, **the inclusive focus of universal social policies has been complemented by specific measures that address Roma with difficulties of access to universal services due to disadvantage or social exclusion.** At state level, the most relevant and pioneering ones are the 1985 approval by the Lower Chamber of Parliament of the early day motion (*proposición no de ley*) on the creation of a **National Roma Development Plan**, following that rolled out in 1989 for the Roma Development Programme (RDP).⁴ A highlight of the specific measure is financial and technical cooperation with NGOs working towards Roma development and/or Roma associative movement. Cooperation is established on two fronts: (a) technical support to these organisations, and (b) economic support to the social interest programmes that carry them out.⁵

At regional level, certain autonomous governments have rolled out specific action plans for Roma, such as the Basque Country,⁶ Catalonia,⁷ Extremadura,⁸ Andalusia,⁹ and Navarre.¹⁰ In 2010, the Spanish Government, in turn, approved the **Roma Action Plan 2010-2012**¹¹ which was a milestone in the policies developed by the Government in relation to the Roma in Spain.

Important landmarks in this process have been the steps towards greater institutional recognition of Roma. The Lower House passed, in 1999, the creation of a *Sub-committee for the study of Roma issues*; in 2005, it passed a motion to insist upon Government the promotion of Roma culture, history, identity and language,¹² which

⁴ In 1989 a budget provision was made within the General State Budget to fund this Programme. Since then, the distribution of this loan has been carried out by collaboration agreements with autonomous communities, which provide co-financing.

⁵ Financial support is in place via subsidies regulated in the annual call for subsidies of the Ministry; specifically, that made against 0.7% of Personal Income Tax for social cooperation and volunteering programmes, which have included the "Roma Programmes" as general interest programmes eligible for subsidy since 1989, as well as the call to strengthen the associative fabric under the framework of general subsidies.

⁶ I and II Basque Plan for Integral Promotion and Social Participation of the Roma People (2004-2007) and (2007-2011). http://www.gizartelan.ejgv.euskadi.net/r45-contss/es/contenidos/informacion/planes_ss/es_planes/adjuntos/plan_web.pdf

⁷ I and II Catalonia Integral Roma Plan (2005-2008) and (2009-2013). http://www20.gencat.cat/portal/site/bsf/menuitem.318327c7107bbec91285ea75b0c0e1a0/?vgnextoid=6d87dffa590e210VgnVCM2000009b0c1e0aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=6d87dffa590e210VgnVCM2000009b0c1e0aRCRD&vgnnextfmt=default&newLang=ca_ES

⁸ Extremadura Plan for the Promotion and Social Participation of the Roma People (2007-2013). <http://ie.juntaex.es/?mod=gitanos>

⁹ Plan Integral para la Comunidad Gitana de Andalucía. <http://www.juntadeandalucia.es/organismos/saludybienestarsocial/areas/inclusion/comunidad-gitana/paginas/picga.html>

¹⁰ Navarre Integral Roma Assistance Plan (2011-2014). <http://www.navarra.es/NR/rdonlyres/550A26C1-81E6-41B4-886D-F43841E4BA24/201885/PlanAtencionPuebloGitano.pdf>

¹¹ Passed by Resolution of the Council of Ministers on 9 April 2010. <http://www.msps.es/politicaSocial/inclusionSocial/poblacionGitana/planAccionGitano.htm>

¹² Early day motion (Proposición no de ley) of 27 September 2005, urging the Government to promote Roma culture, history, identity and language.



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materialised in the creation, in 2007, of the **Institute for Roma Culture**,¹³ attached to the then Ministry of Culture. Likewise, legislative assemblies of a number of autonomous communities have included, in their re-worked Statutes, express mentions to Roma communities historically present in each community; specifically Andalusia,¹⁴ Aragon,¹⁵ Catalonia¹⁶ and Castile-Leon.¹⁷

In recent years, consultation and representation bodies have been established for the Roma associative movement attached to the General State Administration, as well as many autonomous communities. Examples of this are the creation of a **State Council of the Roma People** in 2005,¹⁸ as well as the coordination of similar bodies in Catalonia,¹⁹ Basque Country,²⁰ Extremadura,²¹ and in Castile-La Mancha.²²

A major milestone in this process was the adoption of the **National Roma Integration Strategy 2012-2020**²³, by the Spanish Council of Ministers on 2 March 2012, which derives from the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020 that the European Commission adopted on 5 April 2011, (Communication “An EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020”, COM (2011) 173 of 5 April 2011). This Communication, endorsed by the Member States at the meeting of the EPSCO Council on 19 May and by the European Council at its meeting on June 24, called the Member States to adopt national Roma integration strategies, which were due by the end of 2011. These strategies should be drafted in compliance with the Europe 2020 Strategy and the National Reform Programs in each country.

¹³ The Institute of Roma Culture is a state foundation aimed at promoting the history, culture and language of Roma with studies, research and publication, as well as promoting initiatives leading to the integration of the Roma community from the acknowledgement of its cultural identity. <http://www.institutoculturagitana.es/>

¹⁴ The Autonomous Statute of Andalusia, created by Spanish Act 2/2007, of 19 March, establishes in Article.10.3.21, as an objective of the Autonomous Community: “The promotion of necessary conditions for the full integration of minorities, particularly the Roma community for its full social inclusion”.

¹⁵ Spanish Act 5/2007, of 20 April, reforming the Autonomous Statute of Aragon stipulates that Aragon’s public powers shall promote “the conditions necessary for the integration of ethnic minorities and, particularly, the Roma community” (Art. 23.2).

¹⁶ The Autonomous Statute of Catalonia establishes in Article 42.7 that public powers “must guarantee the recognition of Roma culture to safeguard its history”. (Spanish Act 6/2006, of 19 July, reforming the Autonomous Statute of Catalonia).

¹⁷ The Autonomous Statute of Castile-Leon includes in its main public policy clauses (Article 16) “The non-discrimination and respect of diversity of the various ethnic, cultural and religious groups present in Castile-Leon, with particular attention to the Roma Community”. (Spanish Act 14/2007, of 30 November, reforming the Autonomous Statute of Castile-Leon).

¹⁸ Created and governed by Royal Decree 891/2005, of 22 July, the State Roma Council is the consultation and advisory collegiate interministerial body where collaboration and cooperation of the Roma associative movement with the General State Administration take place, for the integral development and integration of the Roma. <http://www.msps.es/politicaSocial/inclusionSocial/poblacionGitana/consejoEstGitano.htm>

¹⁹ Consell Assessor del Poble Gitano, created by *Decret 102/2005 de creació de la Comissió Interdepartamental del Pla integral del Poble Gitano i del Consell Assessor del Poble Gitano*.

²⁰ Council for Roma Promotion and Social Participation in the Basque Country created by Decree 289/2003 of 25 November.

²¹ Regional Roma Council created by Decree 179/2001 of the Government of Extremadura.

²² Regional Roma Council created by Order of the Castile-Leon Department of Health and Social Welfare, of 25 April 2011.

²³<http://www.msssi.gob.es/ssi/familiasInfancia/inclusionSocial/poblacionGitana/estrategiaNacional.htm>



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The Strategy includes measures in the four key areas for social inclusion: education, employment, housing and health. In each one of these areas the Strategy sets quantitative targets, which are specified in percentages of the population, to be achieved in 2020, with some intermediate goals for 2015. In addition to these four areas, the Strategy provides complementary lines of action in the fields of social action, participation, improving the knowledge about this population, gender equality, non-discrimination, promotion of culture and a special attention to be provided to Roma from other countries.

Under the framework of the Human Rights Plan, passed by Resolution of the Council of Ministers on 12 December 2008, certain measures were established that would have a potential impact on the Roma. In addition to the measure concerning the elaboration of a specific plan to improve Roma living conditions, the Human Rights Plan includes a Strategic Citizenship and Integration Plan, as well as the approval of a national strategy to fight racism and xenophobia.

The II Strategic Citizenship and Integration Plan 2011-2014, aimed at integrating foreign nationals, including channels and measures of interest for Roma such as those concerning co-inhabitancy, equal treatment, non-discrimination and participation.

The **National Integral Strategy against Racism, Racial Discrimination and Xenophobia and Other Types of Intolerance** approved in November 2011 partially dedicates its analysis to a section on the situation of racism suffered by the Roma. The measures provided for under its framework, in addition to considering regulatory changes, specifically Article 510 of the Penal Code, include the follow-up of cases of discrimination and specific actions in terms of education, employment, health, housing, the media, internet, sport and awareness.

• *Please describe what moves have been made by governments to involve (1) local authorities, (2) regional authorities, and (3) civil society including Roma organizations, in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the Roma inclusion strategy?*

The National Roma Integration Strategy in Spain 2012-2020 was conceived as an opportunity to strengthen and enlarge the channels and measures that have produced positive results in recent decades. It falls under the framework of the National Reform Programme, and in the national plans and policies of a number of fields (education, employment, housing, healthcare, etc.) that directly affect the living conditions of Roma. Likewise, given the high degree of decentralisation of the Spanish administrative system, this is planned and developed in collaboration with autonomous communities and local authorities, and in consultation with the Roma associative movement.



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The National Roma Integration Strategy in Spain 2012-2020 was coordinated by the General Directorate of Family and Childhood Services of the Ministry of Health, Social Policy and Equality. To facilitate its creation, the Ministry established a participative work process which began with a meeting of the State Council of the Roma People wherein the proposal of the Strategy was presented, along with its method of creation.

The process of creation of the Strategy took place by way of meetings and consultation. It involved various ministries of the General State Administration connected to the working areas important for social inclusion, as well as autonomous communities, the Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP), and civil society organisations represented in the State Council of the Roma People.

Below there is a list of the bodies, departments and entities consulted:

GENERAL STATE ADMINISTRATION

MINISTRY	DEPARTMENT
MINISTRY HEALTH, SOCIAL POLICY AND EQUALITY (current Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality)	General sub-directorate of Social Programmes. Secretary of the State Council of the Roma People.
MINISTRY OF HEALTH, SOCIAL POLICY AND EQUALITY (current Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality)	General sub-directorate of Health Promotion and Epidemiology
MINISTRY OF HEALTH, SOCIAL POLICY AND EQUALITY (current Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality)	General sub-directorate of Programme of the Woman's Institute
MINISTRY OF HEALTH, SOCIAL POLICY AND EQUALITY (current Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality)	General sub-directorate for Equality and non-discrimination
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION	Office of Human Rights
MINISTRY OF CULTURE (current Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport)	General sub-directorate for Promotion of de Promotion of Cultural Industries, Foundations and Patronage
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (current Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport)	Cultural Industries, Foundations and Patronage of Students, Participation and Equality
MINISTRY OF WORK AND IMMIGRATION (current Ministry of Employment and Social Security)	Spanish observatory of racism and xenophobia
MINISTRY OF WORK AND IMMIGRATION (current Ministry of Employment and Social Security)	Secretary of State for Employment



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MINISTRY OF WORK AND IMMIGRATION (current Ministry of Employment and Social Security)	General Sub-directorate of the Administrative unit of the European Social Fund (AUESF)
MINISTRY OF THE TREASURY (current Ministry of the Treasury and Public Administrations)	General Sub-directorate of Territorial Programming and Evaluation of EU Programmes
MINISTRY OF THE TREASURY (current Ministry of the Treasury and Public Administrations)	General Sub-directorate of Administration of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL AND MARINE AFFAIRS (current Ministry of Agriculture, Food and the Environment)	General Sub-directorate of Programmes and Coordination
MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL AND MARINE AFFAIRS (current Ministry of Agriculture, Food and the Environment)	General Sub-directorate of Equality and Modernisation
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS	Secretary of State for Housing and Urban Projects (current Secretary of State of Planning and Infrastructures)

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS THAT MADE UP THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE ROMA PEOPLE

Asociación Nacional Presencia Gitana
Fundación Secretariado Gitano
Unión Romani
Asociación de Enseñantes con Gitanos
Federación de Asociaciones Culturales Cristianas de Andalucía
Federación Asociaciones Gitanas de Aragón (FAGA)
Asociación Socio-cultural de las Minorías Étnicas "Unga"
Federación Regional Gitana de Asociaciones de Castilla La Mancha
Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas de Castilla y León
Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas de Cataluña
Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas Extremeñas
Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas para la integración laboral y social, promoción y desarrollo del pueblo gitano "Cali"
Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas de Navarra "Gaz Kaló"
Asociación Iniciativa Gitana
Asociación de Promoción Gitana de la Rioja
Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas de la Comunidad Valenciana
Federación Nacional de Asociaciones de Mujeres Gitanas "Kamira"
Federación Andaluza de Mujeres Gitanas Fakali
Asociación de Mujeres Gitanas "Alborea"
Asociación Juvenil Cultural Gitana "Ardiñelo Kaló"



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Prior to the elaboration of the strategy, the creation of the Action Plan for the Development of the Roma Population 2010 – 2012 was also through a participative method.

The technical cooperation mechanisms between Public Administrations and other key players, by virtue of which the governance of the Strategy will be guaranteed, shall be the following:

- In relation to autonomous communities, the role of the Social Affairs Conference²⁴ will be strengthened in order to intensify inter-institutional cooperation and implement joint measures.
- Likewise, information exchanges will be improved from the Special Committee of the National Social Inclusion Action Plan, and the follow-up committees co-financed by autonomous communities and the cities of Ceuta and Melilla; under the framework of the Special Committee's duties, set by its directors, all affairs concerning Roma shall be tackled; likewise, special attention will be paid to coordination with action plans specifically targeted at Roma at autonomous community level (Catalonia, Basque Country, Extremadura, Navarre) as well as those which may come into effect in future.
- The operations of the *Roma Technical Cooperation Group* will be strengthened. The Group includes representation of Central, Autonomous and Local Administrations (via the FEMP); its duties will be of mutual information concerning Roma related policies implemented at three administrative levels and the operative rollout and follow-up of measures that require involvement from all three levels (central, autonomous and local).
- At the *State Council of the Roma People* the activities of the Working Groups will continue, which are formed by various ministries and associations, and which prioritise the key areas of education, employment, health and housing. Likewise, coordination will be encouraged with consultation and advisory bodies existing in certain autonomous communities with respect to Roma-related affairs.
- Plans are in place for the creation of an *Inter-fund Committee*, comprising representatives of the ESF, the ERDF and the EAFRD, with the aim of coordination the programming, follow-up and review of activities focused on the Roma.

With these objectives in mind, the progress made on dialogue with relevant stakeholders since the adoption of the Spanish National Roma Integration Strategy on March 2012 is:

- At a meeting in July, the Social Affairs Conference ratified the agreement taken at a General Directors meeting of the continuation and reinforcement of the Roma Technical Cooperation Group. The aim is to establish exchange mechanisms

²⁴ The Social Affairs Conference is the commission of Government representatives of the Autonomous Communities and Autonomous cities, and the General Public Administration – Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality.



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between the National Contact Point (NCP) and the regional government on policies, plans and actions aimed at Roma population that are being carried out at regional level; priority criteria that are being used; financial instruments; monitoring and evaluation; and good practices. The working framework of this group was drafted as well as a template for collecting information from regions and local authorities. Most of the work carried out by this group will be done through Internet (e-mail exchange) and complemented by a minimum of one meeting per year.

- The State Council of the Roma People was renewed in 2012. In November, the Plenary selected the members of the Permanent Commission, which includes six representatives for Roma organisations. Likewise, the Plenary agreed on its internal regulation and selected its six working groups: Education; Employment and economic activities; Social action, citizenship, equality and non-discrimination and European agenda; Health; Housing; and Culture.
- With regards to the coordination with regional consultation and advisory bodies, the NCP is in contact regularly and exchanges information with the bodies of Catalonia and the Basque Country.
- A meeting on programming the new EU Cohesion Policy was held at the beginning of 2013.

In addition, it must be highlighted that the National Roma Integration Strategy in Spain 2012-2020 was presented to the public in May 2012. The National Contact Point organised a public act at the Secretary of State of Social Services and Equality with representatives from social agents, civil society organisations and the Roma community, which had a participation of around 80 persons.

- *Please describe any changes in 2012 in the participation of Roma in decision-making processes/arrangements and public administration structures; please include quantitative and descriptive information to the extent possible.*

Simultaneously to the development of the third sector in Spain that has been progressively been growing in size, becoming more professional, gaining organisation and management capabilities and political implication, an associative Roma movement has been consolidating, formed by a variety of organisations that span the nation and the majority of the local sphere, although of which a large part is integrated into regional federations that have a consolidated role in liaison with public authorities.

The **State Council for the Roma People**, which was established in 2005, has been functioning since 2007 under the auspices of the Ministry for Health, Social Services and Equality. It is a collegial body composed of 20 representatives of the associative Roma movement, in equal composition with the General State Administration. Its mandate includes assessing policies, projects and legislation on the Roma community, proposing measures and projects to improve the situation and making



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suggestions as to the use of funds. It is also conceived as a consultative body between the administration and Roma civil society.

Representatives from the associative Roma movement are selected on the basis of a public call of the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality, to which diverse associations present their candidacy. The Ministry selects 20 organisations to be part of the Council following criteria established in the call: representation, field of action, activities and programmes implemented, economic capacity, and participation in other forums and councils. At least two of the representatives of the associative Roma movement must come from Roma women organisations and another two from Roma youth organisations. The selection of the council representatives seeks a gender balance formation. Currently, there are three Roma women organisations (which in turn are federations of women organisations themselves) in the Council and another woman who presides over one of the other organisations.

The State Council for the Roma People is fully involved in the elaboration of relevant policy documents that affect Roma community, such as the Action Plan for the Roma Population for 2010-2012, the Comprehensive Strategy against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, the Strategic Plan on Citizenship and Integration (2007-2010 and 2011-2014) and the National Roma Integration Strategy in Spain 2012-2020. The Council is also fully involved in the implementation of these strategies and programmes. It also plays an active role organising events such as the Second European Summit on the Roma population.

In addition to this, two representatives of the Roma associative movement from two Roma organisations that are members of the Council, Fundación Secretariado Gitano and Unión Romaní, are vocals at the **National Council for Social Action NGOs**.

In the field of equal treatment and non-discrimination, it is worth mentioning that the **Council for the Promotion of Equal Treatment and Non-discrimination on Racial or Ethnic Grounds** was established in 2010 as an independent body in charge of monitoring the situation in the field of discrimination and raising awareness of these issues in society as a whole. The Council established a **Network of assistance to victims of discrimination**, operating at the local level with the support of various NGOs. Two nationwide Roma NGOs are represented in the Council, Fundación Secretariado Gitano and Unión Romaní. Both of them are also represented in the National Council for Social Action NGOs.

As mention above, consultation bodies also exist at the regional level, in Catalonia, in Barcelona (City), Extremadura, and the Basque Country.

The civil society organisations that are currently members of the State Council for the Roma People are:



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- Unión Romaní.
- Fundación Secretariado Gitano.
- Federación de Asociaciones Culturales Cristianas de Andalucía (FACCA).
- Federación Andaluza de Mujeres Gitanas (FAKALI).
- Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas de Cataluña (FAGIC).
- Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas Extremeñas (FAGEX).
- Federación Autonómica de Asociaciones Gitanas de la Comunidad Valenciana (FAGA Valencia).
- Federación de Asociaciones de Mujeres Kamira.
- Asociación Nacional Presencia Gitana.
- Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas de Aragón (FAGA Aragón).
- Asociación de Promoción Gitana de La Rioja.
- Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas de Navarra Gaz Kalo.
- Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas de Castilla y León.
- Federación Regional Gitana de Asociaciones de Castilla La Mancha.
- Federación Conciencia Gitana de Extremadura (FECOGEX).
- Asociación de Mujeres Gitanas Alborea.
- Asociación de Enseñantes con Gitanos.
- Asociación Socio Cultural de Minorías Étnicas Unga.
- Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas para la integración laboral y social, promoción y desarrollo del Pueblo Gitano Kali.
- Plataforma Romanés

• *Please describe what has been done since the submission of the Decade Action Plan to put in place robust mechanisms to monitor and evaluate policy implementation? Did the government report internally, to the European Commission or any other body on implementation of its National Roma Integration Strategy or Decade Action Plan?*

In order to gauge the meeting of targets set in section two of the Strategy, and without prejudice to execution and impact evaluations of the universal and specific policies which will aid the achievement of these, mid-term and full term surveys will be carried out which, alongside and pursuant to those on which the target setting of the Strategy has been based. These will allow comparisons to be made between the situation of the Roma and the Spanish population as a whole. Specifically, the development of statistical studies is being envisaged which will verify the degree of achievement of targets identified in the Strategy and the planning of new ones.

- The socio-demographic study carried out by the Centre for Sociological Research (CSR) in 2007 is going to be repeated.
- The Spanish National Health Survey for Roma is expected to be repeated, and its comparative study with the Spanish National Health Survey for the general population.



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- The employment study carried out on two occasions on indicators compared with the Active Population Survey (APS) is due to be repeated.
- The Roma Housing Map in Spain is due to be repeated, which provides comparable data on results from previous maps.
- Studies carried out on education will provide data for diachronic analysis, as well as the comparison of indicators of the State System of Indicators of the Ministry of Education.

These studies shall be carried out in two phases: one prior to 2015 to provide data on the degree of success of mid-term targets, and another in 2020, which will collect information on final results. The results of these studies will be used to draft two target achievement follow-up reports, a mid-term one after 2015 and other upon the completion of the strategy in 2020.

The studies planned by the European Agency for Fundamental Rights may contribute to improving the Strategy follow-up, and will facilitate complementary information.

Consequently, the follow-up and review of the Strategy with regard to the meeting of targets will be based on *result* or *impact* indicators provided for the Strategy itself. Conversely, the follow-up of execution of the specific actions carried out to reach targets will be based on the *process* or *activity* system of indicators agreed under the framework of the Action Plan for the Development of the Roma Population.

Meanwhile, the execution period of the Action Plan for the Development of the Roma Population 2010 – 2012 has just come to an end and is in process of evaluation. At the same time, with the new formation of the State Council for the Roma People and its six working groups covering the strategic areas of the National Roma Integration Strategy in Spain 2012-2020, concrete lines of action to implement the strategy are being defined at the moment to reach the targets set up in the strategy.

In addition to this, the Government regularly reports to the European Commission as well as to other international organizations such as United Nations, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe or the Council of Europe, among others.

- *How does the national equal treatment/anti-discrimination body support the implementation of the Decade Action Plan/National Roma Integration Strategy? Please provide information on the number of complaints related to discrimination against Roma throughout 2012 and on measures undertaken by the national equal treatment/anti-discrimination body concerning these complaints.*

In the antidiscrimination field, the tools and mechanisms to protect potential victims have been strengthened with the transposition of Directive 43/2000 to the Spanish



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legal system in the **Act 62/2003, of 30 December, on Fiscal, Administrative and Special Measures.**

This law defines and prohibits direct and indirect discrimination, harassment and instructions to discriminate based on the racial or ethnic origin and extent their scope to employment, health, social benefits and services, and the access to goods and services, including housing.

This law also creates the **Council for the Promotion of Equal Treatment and Non-discrimination on Racial or Ethnic Grounds.** The Council is a collegiate body attached to the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality, comprising State, Autonomous and Local Administrations, business organisations and trade union representatives, as well as nonprofit organisations working in the field of racial or ethnic discrimination. It is governed by Royal Decree 1044/2009 amending Royal Decree 1262/2007 on the composition, capabilities and structure of the Council.

In addition to this, there is also a specific law which covers a key sector of activity, in terms of awareness rising, such as sports with **the Law 19/2007, of 11 of July, Against Violence, Racism, Xenophobia and Intolerance in the Sports.** (Ley 19/2007, de 11 de julio, Contra la Violencia, el Racismo, la Xenofobia y la Intolerancia en el Deporte.)

Finally, we have to remark that one of the main principles which is included in all regulations of the administrative activity (education, health, housing, public security etc.) is the **principle of equal treatment** between people irrespective of their racial or ethnic origin.

The **Network of Centres for the Assistance to Victims of Discrimination**, driven by the Council for the Promotion of Equal Treatment and Non-discrimination on Racial or Ethnic Grounds, is a service that independently supports and advises victims of racial or ethnic discrimination in any sphere (education, health, housing, employment, etc.). This service is based on a network of social and trade union organisations including two Roma organisations, the Unión Romaní and the Fundación Secretariado Gitano.

According to the figures provided by the Network, in 2011 Spain had:

<u>Nr. of Cases (Individual): 57</u>	<u>Positive Solutions: 19 (33%)</u>
<u>Nr. of Cases (Collectives): 116</u>	<u>Positive Solutions: 36 (32%)</u>

And, in 2010:

<u>Nr. of Cases (Individual): 52</u>	<u>Positive Solutions: 11 (21%)</u>
<u>Nr. of Cases (Collectives): 66</u>	<u>Positive Solutions: 13 (20%)</u>



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Still no official data available for 2012.

The number of Roma-related cases in which the Network acted ex officio was of 17% in 2010 and 38% in 2011.

Through the Network of Centres for the Assistance to Victims of Discrimination of which two Roma Organisations, the Fundación Secretariado Gitano and Unión Romani, are part. They develop a crucial role in neighbourhoods where the majority of the population is Roma.

This circumstance allows the Council to have a deeply knowledge of the situation of Roma community and their particular problems.

In relation to the programmes implemented to improve the relationship between Roma and the police, the General Secretariat for Immigration and Emigration of the Ministry of Employment and Social Security and the Secretary of State for Security of the Ministry of Interior have elaborated a **'Handbook for Security Forces in identifying and recording racist or xenophobic incidents'**²⁵. This publication is one of the final products of the European Project 'Training to Identify and Record Racist Incidents' (FIFIR), to communicate and disseminate the training given during the **training sessions held for more than 150 trainers of the various security Forces**. The aim of this training was to raise awareness and train different police forces on equal treatment and non-discrimination irrespective of racial or ethnic origin. The project was led by the General Secretariat for Immigration and Emigration of the Ministry of Employment and Social Security, through the Spanish Observatory on Racism and Xenophobia (OBERAXE).

The aim of the project was to, firstly, further train on equal treatment and non racial or ethnic discrimination among security forces, providing tools for specific training in criteria used by different national, regional and local security forces to detect and record 'racist or xenophobic incidents'. Secondly, to disseminate the training acquired in order to raise awareness to the various stakeholders, particularly Security Forces personnel.

In addition to this, the Platform for Police Management of Diversity, involving non-governmental organisations and the National Union of Chiefs and Managerial Staff of the Local Police (UNIJEPOL) is promoting equal treatment and non-discrimination within police procedures since 2010.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality has granted a yearly subsidy of around 140.000 euro to three organisations aimed at attending and

²⁵ <http://www.oberaxe.es/files/datos/50bc5eaaef631/FIRIR%20Handbook%20for%20training.pdf>



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promoting the Roma ethnic community in prisons, as well as at delivering occupational workshops and training of Roma in these centres.

Last, in recent years **dedicated public prosecutors** have been specialised in dealing with discrimination and hate crimes in the provinces of Barcelona, Madrid and Malaga. Recently, the Attorney General appointed a **Deputy Attorney General of the Supreme Court for the safeguarding of equality and antidiscrimination**.

In addition to this, a draft law to amend articles 510 and 515 of the Penal Code was approved on December 2012, to more precisely criminalise crimes of hate and discrimination for ethnic reasons among others, as well as to criminalise hate and discrimination crimes in Internet.

• *Please provide information on what has been done to allocate sufficient budgetary resources and concrete amounts for the implementation of the Decade Action Plan/National Roma Integration Strategy from national budgets. What is the total amount and percentage of the 2012 national budget dedicated to the implementation of the Decade Action Plan or National Roma Integration Strategy in your country? What kinds of sources (local, national and international) are considered for the implementation of the Decade National Action Plans/National Roma Integration Strategy in 2013?*

Despite the current context of economic crisis, the **Roma Development Programme**, managed by the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality of the General State Administration from the year 1989 has continued to foster Roma social development through different initiatives, to improve their quality of life and promote their participation in public and social life, fighting discrimination.

The Programme has strengthened **cooperation with Autonomous and Local Administrations**, which are co-responsible with the General State Administration in Roma issues, assigning a specific and relevant budget to it. The total amount allocated by the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality for the period 2011-2012 was of more than 1.4 million euro and by the Autonomous and Local Administration of more than 3.8 million euro.

In addition to this, the programme provides **financial support to organisations of the associative Roma movement provided** for specific projects with Roma population, to promote labour, educational and social insertion. The Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality has granted subsidies for the period 2011-2012 for an amount of more than 16 million euro and other Ministries (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Ministry of Employment and Social Security, Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport) for an amount of more than four hundred thousand euro for the accomplishment of different social programmes.



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With regards to the sources that are considered for the implementation of the Programme, the Strategy is simultaneously based on access for Roma to general tools and programmes (i.e. those which are not exclusively conceived for Roma) and on the development of specific measures. The financing of actions carried out to achieve targets shall, consequently, come from two different channels: (a) from the budgets of universal policies, plans and programmes in each area indicated in the action plans, from which Roma and citizens in general will benefit; and (b) the specific budgets for the benefit of Roma preferentially.

In turn, given the degree of decentralisation of the Spanish Administration and that, to a large extent, social policies fall under the jurisdiction of autonomous communities, financing will come from both state level and autonomous and local level.

In the follow-up of the Strategy, special attention will be paid to the specific funding of Roma-directed measures at state and autonomous level, as well as that coming from Structural Funds.

Spain has allocated Structural Funds to the social inclusion of Roma since it first began receiving them in 1986. Initially, these funds benefitted the Roma via National Professional Training and Insertion Plan courses (PTI Plan) and the Workshop and Trade School Programmes and, since 2000, via the dedicated programme (*Acceder*) under the framework of the Anti-Discrimination Operational Programme (ADOP).

Currently, Structural Funds are used to favour social inclusion of disadvantaged Roma preferentially via the European Social Fund, both by way of regional operational programmes managed by the Autonomous Communities, as well as via the Anti-Discrimination Operational Programme (ADOP). This latter programme has allocated 42 million euro for Roma-specific measures for the period 2007-2013 (total eligible cost).²⁶ Under the framework of the Strategy, these funds are trying to be increased in the short and medium term.

In the short-term (current programming period 2007 – 2013) the following actions are planned:

- Analyse together with autonomous communities and foster, via operational programmes, the use of the ERDF in accordance with the possibilities offered by Article 7.2 of its regulations (reconstruction of housing and eradication of segregated settlements thanks to comprehensive projects).
- Strengthen, under the ESF, the amount of funds dedicated to Roma from both the Anti-Discrimination Operational Programme (ADOP) (through its re-programming) and

²⁶ Furthermore, ESF regional operational programmes also allocate funds for Roma social inclusion, although the total amount is not accurately known.



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from regional operational programmes, with a special effort on measuring the impact of these on Roma.

- Strengthen the transnational aspect during 2012-2013. In this regard, key political players from a number of countries will be invited to work on criteria and formulas to roll out coordinated action during the next programming period.
- Create and circulate methodological guidelines to programme actions in benefit of the Roma for the future programming period.

In the medium-term (future programming period 2014 – 2020) the following actions are planned:

- Intensify actions for Roma with ESF support, in line with the proposals of draft regulations to dedicate 20% of funds to the fight against exclusion.
- Align the *Partnership Agreement* and future operational programmes with the EU2020 Strategy / NRP, which has special resonance with the Roma in three specific areas: education (reduction of early school leavers), employment (increase employment rate) and the fight against poverty and social exclusion.
- Study the advisability of mechanisms that offer future regulations in order to strengthen investment in Roma, specifically: Joint action programmes among various funds, large scale projects, the use of subsidies and the use of technical assistance. In this regard, an inter-fund committee is planned for development (ESF, ERDF, EAFRD) focused on the use and follow-up of Structural Funds in actions concerning the Roma.
- Continuing driving forward transnational actions and strengthening partnership with other countries on the basis of experience in the programming period with the EURoma network.
- Study mechanisms to identify and report more suitably on the scope of Structural Funds on the Roma, in terms of the number of beneficiaries and the relationship between investment and results obtained.

2. EDUCATION

- *Please list policies and programs that were designed and implemented at national or local level to support Roma education in 2012 with a special focus on the goals and implementation of the Decade National Action Plan/National Roma Integration Strategy (if applicable).*

Last year the National Roma Integration Strategy in Spain 2012-2020 was approved. Education is one of the four key areas for the social inclusion of Roma population and has the following aims in its action framework:

- Increase of schooling of Roma population in Preschool.



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- Universalisation of schooling and increase of the academic success of Roma students in primary education.
- Funding increase of Compulsory Secondary Education and increase of the academic success of Roma students at this stage.
- Increase of educational level of adult Roma population.

The strategic line of action on education of the Strategy includes:

Pre-school education

- Support to enrol Roma at 0-3 years, with priority given to families at risk of social exclusion.
- Family awareness and support for the participation of families in school, as well as the training of young people as teachers.
- Promotion of work, family and personal life conciliation.

Primary and secondary education

- Boosting of mediation programmes between families and schools, encouraging the incorporation of male and female Roma professionals.
- Boosting of Reinforcement, Guidance and Support Programmes, in order to avoid absenteeism and early school leaving.
- Strengthening of accompaniment measures for the transition from primary to secondary education.
- Strengthening of the participation of Roma students with learning difficulties or specific support needs in IPQPs (Initial Professional Qualification Programmes) or in CDPs (Curricular Diversification Projects).
- Fostering of measures to avoid the concentration of Roma pupils in certain schools or classrooms.

Post-obligatory education

- Boosting of labour orientation programmes to prepare for the move from secondary school to professional training and accompaniment in transition phases between school years and stages.
- Fostering of university access measures for the Roma, including the promotion of grants programmes.

Eradication of adult illiteracy and education

- Boosting of literacy and the permanent education programmes for Roma in Adult Education Centres, Popular Universities, Training Workshops, Employment Workshops, etc., including academic strengthening in order to encourage completion of CSE education and the rate of over 25s taking the University Entrance Exam.
- Fostering lifelong education by way of flexible and adapted methodologies, making timetables more flexible and seeking ways to conciliate, strengthening the EU dimension, with special attention to digital literacy.

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- Promotion of the use of infrastructures and measures of primary and secondary education centres attended by Roma children.

Teacher training in intercultural education

- Boost the inclusion of specific courses on Roma culture and diversity in Teacher Training and Resources Centres.
- Support in university training, particularly in certain courses (Education degrees (Pre-school and Primary), Teaching degrees (Pre-school and Primary), Social Education, Social Work, Pedagogy, Psychology, etc.) and the inclusion of units on cultural and intercultural diversity.

Inclusion of diversity in the curriculum

- Creation of a guidance protocol of inclusion of culture, history, literacy etc., of the Roma people in text books and student working materials, and support for the creation of education materials on Roma culture.
- Support for education centres to foster cultural diversity in their centre education project (CEP) and to incorporate Roma culture into the centre curricular project (CCP).

The National Roma Integration Strategy also sets the following education targets:

General and specific targets	Total population data	Previous ref Roma population	Most recent Roma data	Target 2015	Target 2020
TARGET 1. Increase in Roma pre-school education completion.					
Specific Target 1.1 <i>Increase the proportion of Roma girls and boys that have attended pre-school prior to their compulsory schooling (<6 years).</i>	97.5% (2008, ME)	59% (1994, FSG) 74% (2001, FSG)	87% (2009, FSG)		95%
TARGET 2. Universal schooling and increasing academic success among Roma pupils in Primary Education.					
Specific Target 2.1. <i>Increase school completion of Roma girls and boys in Primary Education (6-12 years).</i>	99.9% (2008, ME)		96.7% (2007, CIS)		99%
Specific Target 2.2 <i>Reduce absenteeism* in Primary Education.</i> <i>*(absence from school for more than three months)</i>		57% (1994, ASGG) 31% (2001, FSG)	22.5% (2009, FSG)		10%
Specific Target 2.3 <i>Increase the number of Roma girls and boys in</i>	8 years: 94%	35%	81.1%		90%

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<i>the school year corresponding to their age.</i>	10 years: 9% (2008, ME)	(1994, ASGG) 69% (2001, FSG)	(2009, FSG)		
TARGET 3. Increase in completion of Compulsory Secondary Education and increase in academic success of Roma pupils at this stage					
Specific Target 3.1 <i>Increase school completion in Secondary Education of Roma between 13-15 years.</i>	>98% (2008, ME)		Total 78.1% (F): 71.7% (2007, CIS)	Total: 85% (F): 80%	Total: 90% (F): 90%
Specific Target 3.2 <i>Reduce early school leaver rates prior to the end of the compulsory stage.</i>			This figure is expected during 2012		
Specific Target 3.3 <i>Increase the number of Roma students enrolled in CSE.</i>	78% (2008, ME)		This figure is expected during 2012		
TARGET 4: Increase in the education level of the Roma adult.					
Specific Target 4.1 <i>Reduce absolute illiteracy rates amount Roma (>16 years)</i>	2.2% (2011/3Q, APS)	13.1% (2005, FSG) 13.5% (2007, CIS)	8.7% (2011, EDIS; FSG)	6%	3%
Specific Target 4.2. <i>Reduce the proportion of Roma aged 18-24 years with no studies or training leaving during or at the end of the compulsory stage. (2020 Strategy).</i>	Total: 31.2% (early school leaver) (2009, NRP)		90.9% (2011, EDIS; FSG)	85%	80%
Specific Target 4.3 <i>Increase the level of Roma that have completed post-compulsory studies</i>	42.1% (2006, APS)		2.6% (2007, CIS)	5%	8%

SOURCES:

ASGG (1994): *Evaluación de la Normalización Educativa del Alumnado Gitano en Educación General Básica*. Madrid, Asociación Secretariado General Gitano.

FSG (2002): *Evaluación de la Normalización Educativa del Alumnado Gitano en la Educación Primaria*. Madrid, Fundación Secretariado Gitano.

FSG (2006): *Incorporación y trayectoria de niñas gitanas en la CSE*. Madrid. CIDE/Instituto de la Mujer.

FSG (2010): *Evaluación de la normalización educativa de las alumnas y los alumnos gitanos en la Educación Primaria*. Madrid, ITTRI/Instituto de la Mujer.

Ministerio de Educación/Instituto de Evaluación (2011): *Sistema Estatal de Indicadores de la Educación*. Ministerio de Educación.

Laparra, M. (coord.) (2011): *Diagnóstico social de la comunidad gitana en España; Un análisis contrastado de la Encuesta del CIS a Hogares de Roma 2007*. Madrid, MSPSI.

“Active Population Survey”, National Statistics Institute (Annual Data 2006).



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"Active Population Survey", National Statistics Institute (III Quarter 2011).
National Reform Programme. Spain. 2011.

The Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport is working to improve the quality of education for all the students and to allow an increase of the results of all students without distinction. In line with this, in the educational area, data collected are not biased by variables like race, ethnicity or culture, because it is intended to give attention to every student searching for talent development that turns education to the main instrument of social mobility, help overcome economic and social barriers and create aspirations and ambitions achievable for everybody.

To this end, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport and the Education Authorities have developed in a context of decentralisation and transfer of powers in education, measures to prevent inequalities, addressing diversity and interculturalism in the classes favouring the development of the full potential of every student.

Specifically, the Ministry carries out various actions directed to the attention of the population in a disadvantaged situation, with the aim of helping to overcome barriers and improve their chances of personal and professional development.

There are also actions kept undertaken, such as:

- Call of awards for centres that develop actions aimed at compensate inequalities in education.
- Call for grants to private non-profit organisations for the development of actions to compensate inequalities in education.
- Grants and study aids.

Some of the programmes implemented to support Roma education are:

- Program Educa 3 to encourage the incorporation of children to school from the earliest years.
- Program for the consolidation of basic skills as an essential curriculum element through actions aimed at all members of the educational community of the different levels of basic education.
- PROA Plan (Reinforcement, Guidance and Support Program) which has three strategic objectives: quality education for everybody, enrich the educational environment and involve the local community, as well as establishing direct attention to students and intervention with families and the environment.
- Program contracts with the centres to increase school success through projects to meet the needs of centres and their students.
- Program to reduce early school leaving education and training to enhance the education system to return youth who have left without qualifications or with insufficient qualifications.



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- Program to reduce early school dropout and training to enhance the educational system to return youth who have left it without qualifications or with insufficient qualifications.
 - School Program 2.0. aimed to implement in the classroom the use of new information technologies and communication.
 - Strategic Plan of Professional Training that includes other programs such as the innovation applied to professional training, recognition of professional skills acquired through work experience, offer of distance professional training for the whole population and an integrated system of professional information and guidance.
 - Pilot experiences in some localities by cooperative learning methodology.
- *What were the outcomes of the policies and programs that your government implemented in 2012?*

Studies about the educational situation of the Roma population show that there is a significant progress in some areas, particularly in schooling in Preschool and Primary Education, if we compare it with the situation of few years ago. To cite some facts: more than a half of Roma children start school at the age of three in 90% of cases, Roma students joined the school in the year of studies in accordance with their age, and there are more and more Roma families who take the initiative to school their children.

There are also advances in continuous attendance to class, as well as the increase of social interaction of Roma students in the school with their mates and with teachers, and it has also increased the valuation that families make about education.

Advancing the process of improving the quality and outcomes of education requires constant review and changes in the organisation and in the actions of the centres, to what it is necessary time, training and participation of all stakeholders. In this regard, it must be said that many centres are doing successful practices through the implementation of various recommendations that have shown their effectiveness in the attention to the various needs of students, which therefore also contribute to improve the attention of Roma population.

Due to Spanish Constitution and legislation on personal data protection which confers a special protection to data related to ethnicity there is a lack of concrete figures referred to the Roma community. Fortunately, more accurate data is becoming accessible through studies, surveys and reports.

Taking this into account, we present here some indicators of the positive developments generated in the education line of action during the past years, according to some of the mentioned studies:



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- From 1994 to 2009 the number of Roma children enrolled in Pre-School Education prior to compulsory education rose nearly 30% (to 87% in 2009). FSG (2010) *Evaluación de la normalización educativa de las alumnas y los alumnos gitanos en Educación Primaria*. Madrid, IFIIE/ Instituto de la Mujer.
- School enrolment of Roma boys and girls aged 13-15 years in 2007 was 78.1% and 71.7% respectively. Laparra, M. (coord.): *Diagnóstico social de la comunidad gitana en España, un análisis contratado de la Encuesta del CIS a Hogares de Población Gitana 2007*. Madrid, Ministerio de Sanidad, Política Social e Igualdad.
- Number of Roma girls and boys in the school year corresponding to their age: 81.1% (2009, FSG).

• *Please describe how these policies and programs impact the cross-cutting issues of the Decade. In particular, how did they promote gender equality, combating discrimination and reducing poverty?*

• *Please identify the most important mainstream and targeted national, EU and other funded schemes launched in last year that will contribute to Roma inclusion/integration in education. Please specify the activity, the funding source (national budget, international donors, ESF, ERDF, etc.), the operational program, the amount allocated, the goals to be reached, and the indicative number and share of Roma beneficiaries.*

The initiatives being taken towards Roma population are those implicated in the Action Plan for the Development of the Roma Population 2010-2012 and the National Roma Integration Strategy 2012-2020:

⇒ Plan Educa3.-Fund to cofinance the creation of public places in the first cycle of Pre-primary school within the Plan Educa 3 frame. Although this action is aimed to all population, it contributes to standardise the Roma child population school attendance. The key objectives of this Plan are to promote the territorial cooperation programmes aimed to achieve general educational objectives, among other things, and contribute to the inter-regional solidarity and to the territorial balance in a compensation of inequalities, promote the creation of enough places in the first cycle of Pre-primary school and coordinate their actions and cooperate with other entities to ensure the educational offer.

In 2010 and 2011 the fund has had a budget of EUR 100,000,000 each year.

⇒ The PROA plan. Supporting and reinforcing programme on secondary education. As the programme Educa 3 do, this one acts towards the whole population but because of its characteristics it affects more students socially disadvantaged, including adolescents and young Roma. It is targeted at Primary and Secondary educational centres with a significant proportion of students with an educational



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disadvantage associated with their socio-cultural environment – belonging to low cultural level or economically disadvantaged families, limited supply of educational resources, ethnic minorities, immigrants with same or different mother tongue, etc. One of the most important targets is to improve the centre educational achievements, not only in quantity and quality, but also in student integration.

The amount allocated for this Plan was EUR 49,650,000 in 2010, EUR 59,700,000 in 2011 and EUR 60,000,000 in 2012.

⇒ The 'Plan to fight against Early School Leaving' provided for 2012 with EUR 40,500,000 has financed specific actions proposed by the Autonomous Communities. This plan includes measures aimed at the retention of students in the system and new programmes to give opportunities for young people with work activity or without it that dropped out of school. The implementation of these programs may require the establishment of certain partnership agreements with local authorities and NGOs.

⇒ The Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality, finances programmes to NGO with the aim to tackle and prevent Early School Leaving. It dedicates each year around 1 million euro through the IRPF Programme.

⇒ The grant call aimed to non-profit private organisations to develop programmes targeted at the attention to students with specific educational support needs and at educational inequalities compensation.

From 2006 to 2010 some grants were awarded to NGOs working with Roma population of an average of EUR 45,000 a year.

⇒ Creation of the specialty of Flamenco in higher arts education of the Music Degree by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport. The creation of this specialty is justified by the great transcendence of Flamenco in the context of cultural heritage of the whole State, especially in those autonomous communities where its tradition is more significant. It has also an extraordinary EU and international cultural projection, shown by its recent inclusion to the list of cultural expressions being part of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity of the UNESCO. This international projection is expressed in its educational dimension, as could not be otherwise, and increases the demand of an Inclusive Education bringing together all Flamenco facets.

⇒ Awareness Campaign about Education with the theme "*When I grow up, I want to be...*" promoted by the Fundación Secretariado Gitano in 2010. This campaign has been co-financed by the former Ministry of Health, Social Service and Equality and it aimed to raise awareness of the Public Administrations and the educational community of the disadvantageous condition of the Roma population to enter and



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remain in the secondary education. The campaign was presented on September 30 2010 in Madrid.

⇒ Awareness Campaign about Education with the theme “Roma with studies, Roma with future” promoted by the Fundación Secretariado Gitano in 2012 and financed mainly by the Ministry of Health, Social Service and Equality through a PIT programme “Other purposes of social interest” and co-financed by the Operational Programme for Fight Against Discrimination of the European Social Fund. The campaign focuses on Roma teenagers between the ages of 12 and 16, to transmit the positive message about the need of finishing the Secondary Education to decide who they want to become in the future.

⇒ Resources Centre for Cultural Diversity Care in Education (CREADE). This centre is in place to continue promoting the knowledge of the situation of the Roma population in the education sector. It is a project of the National Educational Innovation and Research Centre (CNIIE) of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, which has born as a response to concerns of social and education professionals about the cultural diversity and its implications, with the aim of becoming a national and international point of reference.

⇒ Publication of the CREA Study (2010) *Gitanos: de los mercadillos a la escuela y del instituto al futuro*. Madrid: Estudios CREADE-CNIIE-Ministerio de Educación.

⇒ Publication of the study in 2010, *La evaluación de la normalización educativa de las alumnas y alumnos gitanos en la educación primaria*. Fundación Secretariado Gitano. Madrid: Instituto de la mujer e IFIIE

⇒ Publication of the study in 2011, *Historias de éxito: modelos para reducir el abandono escolar de la adolescencia gitana*. Gamella, J.F., Madrid: IFIIE-CREADE-Ministerio de Educación.

Please provide information about the list achievements in the following fields in 2012:

- *Number of Roma children attending pre-school, elementary, secondary, and tertiary education; number of Roma children not in school*
- *Number of Roma teaching assistants in pre-school, elementary, secondary, and tertiary education*
- *Number of Roma children moving from segregated “Roma” pre-schools, primary and secondary schools, to mainstream schools*
- *Number and proportion of Roma children in special schools/classes*
- *Number of Roma children attending preparatory class before elementary, secondary, and tertiary education*
- *Access to counselling services for Roma families with children.*



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- *Inclusion tools in elementary and secondary education (teacher assistants, individualized education plans, tutoring, extracurricular activities, other inclusion measures),*
- *Dropout rates of Roma in primary, secondary, and tertiary education*
- *Number of Roma in primary and secondary adult education*
- *Number of Roma students receiving scholarship and other support in primary, secondary and tertiary education.*

In what concerns education, the goals have been the increase of the schooling in Preschooling education, the universalisation of schooling and the increase of the academic success of students in Primary Education. It has also been proposed an increase in the conclusion of Compulsory Secondary Education (ESO) and an increase in the educational level of Roma adult population.

Nowadays, the increase of the proportion of Roma children who have attended nursery, Preschool Education before their compulsory education period (age of 6) is 87% compared to 97.5% of the general population. The goal is to increase the percentage to 91% in 2015.

In Primary Education (age from 6 to 12) 96.7% of Roma students are schooled, compared to 99.9% of the total population. In Secondary Education 78.1% of Roma male students and 71.7% of Roma female students in the age of 13 to 15 are schooled at this level, compared to 98% of the total population.

In what concerns the reduction of the illiteracy rate among Roma population above the age of 16, current data indicate that the percentage is at 8.7% compared to 2.2% of the total population. The goal is to reduce that percentage to 6% in 2015.



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3. EMPLOYMENT

- Please list the policies or programs that were designed and implemented to support Roma employment in 2012 with a special focus on the goals and implementation of the Decade National Action Plan or the National Roma Integration Strategy (if applicable).
- What are the outcomes of the policies and programs that your government implemented in 2012?
- Please describe how these policies and programs impact the Decade cross-cutting issues. In particular, how did they promote gender equality, combating discrimination and reducing poverty?
- Please identify the most important mainstream and targeted national, EU and other funded schemes launched in last year that will contribute to Roma inclusion in the area of employment. Please, specify the activity, the funding source (national budget, international donor, ESF, ERDF, etc.), the operational program, the amount allocated, the goals to be reached, and the indicative number and share of Roma beneficiaries.

Please provide information about the list of achievements in the following fields in 2012:

- Successful measures tackling discrimination of Roma in the labor market
- Use of active labor market measures for improving the situation of Roma in the labor market and evaluation of the effectiveness of these programs (participation in re-qualification courses, public work programs, etc),
- Improved labor market skills of long-term unemployed Roma
- Improved employment rates of long-term unemployed Roma

Last year the National Roma Integration Strategy in Spain 2012-2020 was approved. Employment is one of the four key areas for the social inclusion of Roma population that includes:

Training and qualifications

- Development of specific programmes to train Roma people at risk of exclusion, simultaneously facilitating access to normalised training programmes for access to employment. Fostering these programmes to reach out to companies, enabling agreements and paid internships.
- Encouraging new technology training (ICT) for Roma.
- Encouraging actions to promote access to continual training for male and female Roma workers.
- Encouraging informative actions on the obtainment of qualifications and professional certificates (by acknowledgement and accrediting of unofficial professional experience and training).

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Access to employment

- Encouraging informative actions on information, guidance and intermediation services of Public Employment Services, as well as labour regulations, self-employment, access to micro credits and social economic companies.
- Support for the normalisation of undeclared professional activities in which a high percentage of Roma work, by means of information activities or advisory services, with special attention for mobile trading and rubbish collection.
- Development of awareness activities to remove discrimination in the access, permanence and promotion of the Roma in the labour market.

The National Roma Integration Strategy also sets the following employment targets:

General and specific targets	Total population data	Previous ref Roma population	Most recent Roma data	Target 2015	Target 2020
TARGET 1: Improve access to normalised employment and reduce job precariousness among the Roma.					
Specific Target 1.1 <i>Increase employment rate in the Roma.</i>	Total: 62.5 % (20-64 years) (F): 55.8% (2010, NRP) (47.17% for all ages). (2011/3Q,APS)	Total: 59.7% (F):48.5%	Total: 43.8% (F):38.4% (2011, EDIS/FSG)	Total: 50% (F): 45%	Total: 60% (F): 52%
Specific Target 1.2 <i>Reduce unemployment rate among the Roma.</i>	21.52% (2011/3Q,APS)	13.8% (2005, EDIS/FSG)	36.4% (2011, EDIS/FSG)	30%	20%
Specific Target 1.3 <i>Increase the proportion of Roma occupied in salaried activities.</i>	83.6% (2011, APS)	51.4% (2005, EDIS/FSG)	37.6% (2011, EDIS/FSG)	40%	48%
Specific Target 1.4 <i>Reduce the temporary employment rate among Roma workers.</i>	26.0% (2011/3Q, APS)	70.9% (2005, EDIS/FSG) 76.4% (2007, CIS)	This figure is expected during 2012.		
Specific Target 1.5 <i>Increase the</i>					

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<i>proportion of Roma professionals and self-employed workers (unalaried) contributing to Social Security.</i>			< 60% (2007, CIS)	70%	75%
<i>Specific Target 1.6 Reduce the proportion of Roma dedicated to collaborating in family economic activities.</i>	0.7% (2011/3Q, APS)	24.1% (2005, EDIS; FSG)	26% (2011, EDIS; FSG)	23%	20%
TARGET 2: Improve professional qualifications of Roma.					
<i>Specific Target 2.1 Increase the proportion of Roma workers with a qualified occupation (above elementary occupations).</i>	86.74 % (2004, APS)	47.2% (2007, CIS): 32.3% (2005, EDIS/FSG)	This figure is expected during 2012		

SOURCES:

FSG; EDIS (2005): *Población Gitana y Empleo: Un estudio comparado*. Madrid, Fundación Secretariado Gitano.

Preview of the results of the 2nd study *Población Gitana y Empleo: Un estudio comparado sobre encuesta realizada en 2011*. FSG-EDIS. 2011 (publication forecast for 2012).

Laparra, M. (coord.) (2011): *Diagnóstico social de la comunidad gitana en España; Un análisis contrastado de la Encuesta del CIS a Hogares de Población Gitana 2007*. Madrid, Ministerio de Sanidad, Política Social e Igualdad.

“Active Population Survey”, National Statistics Institute (Annual Data 2004).

“Active Population Survey”, National Statistics Institute (III Quarter 2011).

National Reform Programme. Spain. 2011.

The Spanish Employment Strategy 2012-2014 establishes targets coherent with the Europe 2020 Strategy and commitments undertaken by Spain in its National Reform Programme:

- Raise participation in the labour market and reduce unemployment, with the achievement of an employment rate of 74% for the population aged between 20 and 64 years under the 2020 strategy, and of 68.5% for women.
- Reduce labour market segmentation and temporary employment.
- Strengthen part-time working and internal flexibility in companies.
- Improve professional capabilities and match them to the needs of market.
- Promote rapid and appropriate reinsertion of persons into the labour market.
- Promote gender equality in the labour market.

Of the ten strategy working areas, “Professional Orientation”, “Training and Re-qualifying”, “Opportunities for groups with special difficulties” and “Fostering Equal Opportunities in Employment”, among others, will have special focus for the Roma.



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The government of Spain approved, by the Cabinet of November 4, 2011, the **Comprehensive Strategy against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance**²⁷.

Although the Comprehensive Strategy is aimed at specific population groups, the protection of human rights in relation to these areas must involve and engage the entire citizenry.

Available data and experience in these areas show that people from ethnic minorities and racial discrimination are particularly susceptible. Therefore, the Strategy takes into consideration the situation of migrants, Roma and most vulnerable people such as the applicants and beneficiaries of international protection or unaccompanied minors or who may suffer multiple discrimination by gender, faith, religious, etc.

The Comprehensive Strategy, based on a diagnosis, raised 41 objectives and 129 measures in various areas and among them stand up the analysis of information systems and criminal legal action on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; educational measures, employment, health, housing, media; Internet; sport and awareness

The Employment Area develops three objectives

1. There may be **no limitations, exclusions or segregation** because of the reasons provided for access to paid employment, including selection criteria on the job training, in professional training, in compensation, the daily and other work conditions, as well as the suspension, dismissal or other causes of termination of the employment contract. Nor may establish limitations, exclusions or segregation because of the reasons provided for access to self-employment.
2. Promoting **access and permanence in the labour market on equal terms** to minorities by racial or ethnic origin.
3. Promote mechanisms for **monitoring and reporting of racist and xenophobic attitudes in the field of employment**.

In 2010-2011, the General Directorate for the Integration of Immigrants under the State Secretary of Immigration and Emigration and the Spanish Observatory on Racism and Xenophobia (OBERAXE) has led a project on “**Managing Diversity**” or **GESDI Project**²⁸. This project was co-financed in the frame of the Anti-discrimination

²⁷ <http://oberaxe.es/mwg-internal/de5fs23hu73ds/progress?id=5APgpvrNDs>

²⁸ <http://www.oberaxe.es/mwg-internal/de5fs23hu73ds/progress?id=JshBj/att7>



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Progress Project by the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities of the European Commission. The GESDI project was developed from December 1st, 2010 to November 30th, 2011, its main objective being to improve equal treatment and diversity management in the workplace, reinforcing the positive image of integrating immigrants and ethnic minorities in companies and business in general.

Due to Spanish Constitution and legislation on personal data protection which confers a special protection to data related to ethnicity there is a lack of concrete figures referred to the Roma community. Fortunately, more accurate data is becoming accessible through studies, surveys and reports.

Taking this into account, we present here some indicators of the positive developments generated in the employment line of action during the past years, according to some of the mentioned studies:

- Around 67% of the more than 64.000 people participating in Acceder programme were Roma.
- Around 70% of the more than 43.000 staff recruited through Acceder programme was Roma.

4. HOUSING

- *Please list the policies or programs that were designed and implemented to support housing for Roma (or the housing of marginalized people, including Roma) in 2012 with a special focus on the goals and implementation of the Decade National Action Plan and the National Roma Integration Strategy (if applicable).*
- *What are the outcomes of the policies or programs that your government implemented in 2012?*
- *Please describe how these policies and programs impact the Decade cross-cutting issues. In particular, how did they promote gender equality, combating discrimination and reducing poverty?*
- *Please identify the most important mainstream and targeted national, EU and other funded schemes launched in last year that will contribute to Roma inclusion in the area of housing? Please, specify the activity, the funding source (national budget, international donors, ESF, ERDF, etc.), the operational program, the amount allocated, the goal to be reached, and the indicative number and share of Roma beneficiaries.*

Please provide information about the following fields in 2012:

- *Number of Roma benefited by infrastructural development. How is desegregation, apriority issue in the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies, dealt with in infrastructure development?*



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- *Number of Roma affected by urban social restoration programs*
- *Number of Roma affected by colony / settlement elimination / development programs*
- *Number of Roma affected by the regulation of property ownership regimes*
- *Number of Roma affected by evictions*
- *Number of Roma included in social housing programs*

Last year the National Roma Integration Strategy in Spain 2012-2020 was approved. Housing is one of the four key areas for the social inclusion of Roma population that includes:

Eradication of slums

- Promotion of the classification of “renewal areas for the eradication of sub-standard housing and slums” for slum settlements and sub-standard housing identified in studies.
- Encouragement for integral intervention programmes, in the process of re-housing, that favours training for the use and maintenance of housing, the implication of persons affected in all phases of the process, labour occupation and the use of community and education services; boosting the use of Structural Funds (art. 7.2 of the ERDF Regulations).
- Search for dignified solutions for homeless or evicted families or those living in condemned buildings.

Access to quality housing and accommodation

- Support for access for young people to rental housing and protected social housing, particularly those with family obligations, as well as Roma people coming from sub-standard housing and slums.
- Stress on housing rehabilitation assistance, on intermediation programmes for access to housing and the granting of private housing for public management.
- Adjustment of public housing leasing costs according to need.
- Encouraging information measures, particularly those directed at the Roma, on actions originating from housing plans.
- Search for Roma-adapted formula when proof of minimum income is required by autonomous communities, in order to allow them access to housing in fair conditions compared to the rest of the population.

The National Roma Integration Strategy also sets the following housing targets:

General and specific targets	Total population data	Previous ref Roma population	Most recent Roma data	Target 2015	Target 2020
TARGET 1. Eradication of slums and sub-standard housing.					

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Specific Target 1.1 <i>Reduce the percentage of slums for Roma households.</i>		10% (1991, PASS)	3.9% (2007, FSG)	2%	0,5%
Specific Target 1.2 <i>Reduce the percentage of Roma homes considered as sub-standard housing.</i>		21.4% (1991, PASS)	7.8% (2007, FSG)	6%	3%
TARGET 2. Improve accommodation quality for Roma.					
Specific Target 2.1 <i>Reduce the percentage of Roma households lacking any basic services.</i>	< 1%	In 1978 66% had running water, 15% had hot water, 50% had a WC, 25% had a shower, 86% had electricity (1991, PASS)	8.5% (2007, CIS)	4.2%	2.1%
Target 2.2. <i>Reduce the percentage of Roma households with damp problems.</i>	17.3 % (2006, LCS)		45.7% (2007, CIS)	40%	35%
Specific Target 2.3 <i>Reduce the percentage of Roma households lacking suitable urban facilities.</i>		In 1991 92% had electrical lighting, 95% had rubbish collection, 77% had public transport, 84% had tarmac roads. (1991, PASS)	19.5% (2007, CIS)	15%	10%
Specific Target 2.4 <i>Reduce the percentage of Roma households with overcrowding.</i>	0.6% (2006, LCS)		29.4% (2007, CIS)	25%	20%

SOURCES:

FSG (2008): *Mapa sobre vivienda y comunidad gitana en España, 2007*. Madrid. Ministerio de Vivienda; Fundación Secretariado Gitano.

Laparra, M. (coord.) (2011): *Diagnóstico social de la comunidad gitana en España; Un análisis contrastado de la Encuesta del CIS a Hogares de Población Gitana 2007*. Madrid, Ministerio de Sanidad, Política Social e Igualdad.

VV.AA. (1990): *Los Gitanos Españoles, 1978*. Madrid, Instituto de Sociología Aplicada & Asociación Secretariado General Gitano.

Grupo Pass (1991): *Mapa de la Vivienda Gitana en España*. Madrid, Asociación Secretariado General Gitano.

In the field of housing recent studies compared with older studies reveal a significant improvement in the residential conditions of the Roma population in recent decades. Many Roma families have had access to a dwelling in many neighbourhoods in Spain. The access to a dwelling has occurred both through public housing, as well as private one.



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According to the latest study published in 2008²⁹ covering the housing conditions of over 90,000 Roma households in 2007, 88.1% of Roma live in standard housing and only 3.9% live in shanty towns while another 7.8% live in infra-edifications.

These results represent a sounding improvement over those obtained in the previous study from 1991³⁰ when 10% of Roma dwellings were living in slums and 21.4% in infra-edifications.

The main Spanish regulations covering housing for Roma include:

- a. The **National Roma Integration Strategy in Spain 2012-2020**. This Strategy has been approved by the Government of Spain in the Council of Ministers on March 2, 2012 and includes the four key areas for social inclusion: education, employment, housing and health.
- b. The **Housing and Rehabilitation State Plan 2009-2012**. This act was approved by the RD. 2066/2008 of December 12, published on December 24, 2008.

Both the National Strategy and the Housing Plan propose to eradicate shanty towns or infra-edifications and to improve the quality of dwellings for Roma population. Another important target is to improve infrastructures and urban facilities in the neighbourhoods where Roma people live. More specifically the **objectives of the National Strategy** are the following:

- Specific Objective 1.1: Reduce the percentage of households in shantytowns Roma population;
- Specific Objective 1.2: Reduce the percentage of households considered Roma shacks;
- Specific Objective 2.1: Reduce the percentage of households of Roma with a lack of basic equipment;
- Specific Objective 2.2: Reduce the proportion of Roma households with humidity problems;
- Specific Objective 2.3: Reduce the proportion of Roma households in areas with shortages of urban facilities;
- Specific Objective 2.4: Reduce the proportion of Roma households that are overcrowded.

The **objectives of the Housing and Rehabilitation State Plan 2009-2012** were the following:

- Facilitate access to a dwelling particularly citizens with more difficulties;

²⁹ Fundación Secretariado Gitano-FSG (2008): “*Mapa sobre vivienda y comunidad gitana en España, 2007*”, Madrid, Ministerio de Vivienda; Fundación Secretariado Gitano.

³⁰ Grupo Pass (1991): “*Mapa de la Vivienda Gitana en España*”. Madrid, Asociación Secretariado General Gitano.



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- Improve quality of life of citizens and conservation of the housing stock, betting on sustainable urban development;
- Encourage economic activity in both real estate development construction and more particularly in the field of rehabilitation.

Given the high degree of decentralisation and the broad powers assigned to Autonomous Communities in a number of pertinent fields, **co-ordination among various actors** is a key element. The housing policy in Spain is based on the agreement among different Administrations since important funds are coming from the central Administration through the Housing State Plans and need an adjustment to the peculiarities of the Autonomous Communities and the necessary approach to the citizens through the Town halls.

This system of management can guarantee that the aid programmes are received by the beneficiaries in the most efficient way and are based on collaboration agreements between the Ministry and the Autonomous Communities which, in many programmes, are also extended to the Town halls.

The intervention of private agents is also a *sine qua non* for an efficient management of the Housing Plans. Financial entities that collaborate in the process of management of some aid programmes and the land promoters for protected houses and construction companies have a very relevant role for the follow-up of the objectives of the Plan.

It is also significant to count on the collaboration of social representatives who know directly the needs of the groups of people who will be given preference in housing. These are **low income citizens** and those who need a special treatment due to a severe difficulty in acceding a home whether it is by their life stage, like young people or people older than 65 years old, or through special urgent reasons in order to dispose of lodging for the victims of gender violence, terrorism, and those affected by catastrophes, or due to dependency or disability.

The Housing and Rehabilitation State Plan contained 6 axes and 12 programmes:

1. - Promotion of protected houses (controlled price)

- Promotion of protected houses both for renting and for sale.

2. - Subsidies for applicants

- Subsidies for tenants;

- Subsidies for buyers of protected houses.

3. - Rehabilitation and Renovation Areas

- ARIS (Areas of rehabilitation);

- ARUS (Renewal Areas);

- Subsidies to eradicate shanty towns or infra-edifications.



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4. - Subsidies for individual Rehabilitation and energy efficiency in new constructions

- Subsidies for individual rehabilitation;
- Subsidies for promoting energy efficiency in new constructions.

5. - Subsidies for urbanize land for future protected houses

6. - Subsidies for information and processing the Plan.

The Plan set a **preference for the most vulnerable groups in relation to access to a dwelling**. The aid referred to in the Plan consists in direct aids, in the access to loans on more affordable conditions or in subsidisation of such loans.

The Aid Programme for the eradication of shanty towns was intended to serve the settlements with marginal population or at risk of social exclusion, with serious health problems, overcrowding of its inhabitants, as well as with safety and living conditions far below the minimum acceptable requirements.

The purpose of this Aid Programme was to assist in the slum eradication through direct aids to the promoters of the programme, which had to be legal entities, public or private non-profit bodies. Relocation assistance for leased from each household is offered in the aid programme.

There are two different strategies for housing rehabilitation:

a) **Rehabilitation and urban renovation areas** aimed at rehabilitating a whole area or a whole neighbourhood. Beyond housing policy it aims at social cohesion. Special attention paid to historical city centres and rural areas.

b) **Plan “Renove”** is for individual rehabilitation in houses and buildings, one by one. It has three objectives: accessibility, efficiency in power consumption and improvement of the structural security of the buildings. The Plan Renove is either for buildings or for dwellings.

The Ministry of Public Works has published “**Aids to access a dwelling in Spain**”. The publication provides information about the basic parameters, calculations, and technical criteria of the housing plans, and its application to the Housing and rehabilitation State Plan 2009-2012. It also provides useful information for citizens, professionals, public and private promoters, and officials of different administrations, to establish a stable technical bases to housing policy, which will support the management aimed to facilitate the access to housing. It also aims at deepening the knowledge of management and the means of housing policy, which are of great importance in the housing market. Finally, it explains the tools and basic concepts of the Aid Programmes and protected dwellings.



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In order to monitoring and review the National strategy for social inclusion of Roma in Spain 2012-2020 is concerned, surveys will be conducted to measure compliance with the objectives set out in section II of the Strategy. Surveys will be from a longitudinal perspective and consistent with those that have served basis to make the objectives of this strategy (e.g. *Map of Roma Housing in Spain*), thus allowing the realisation of comparisons between the situation of the Roma population and the whole Spanish population. These surveys will be conducted in two cycles: one prior to 2015 will provide information on the degree of compliance intermediate targets, and another, in 2020, will yield information on final results. With the information provided by these surveys, two monitoring reports will be prepared to assess compliance with goals, one intermediate report after 2015 and another at the end of the strategy in 2020.

It is worth mentioning that the Institute of Re-housing and Social Integration (IRIS) - managed by Madrid regional government in collaboration with the local government - which origins take back to 1986 and was created in 1998, has successfully continued implementing its work in combating shanty towns and social exclusion. One indicator of this success is that shanty houses in Madrid decreased from 783 in 2010 to 482 in 2011. IRIS also offers social accompaniment to families during and after re-housing, which includes activities in different areas such as education, employment and women promotion through the Service of Neighbourhood Assistance from Madrid Community (ASIVECAM). IRIS has been awarded with the Third Dosta Award from the Council of Europe in its third edition.

Due to Spanish Constitution and legislation on personal data protection which confers a special protection to data related to ethnicity there is a lack of concrete figures referred to the Roma community. Fortunately, more accurate data is becoming accessible through studies, surveys and reports.

Taking this into account, we present here some indicators of the positive developments generated in the housing line of action during the past years, according to some of the mentioned studies:

- Percentage of slums for Roma households has reduced from 10% in 1991 to 3.9% in 2007. FSG (2008): *Mapa sobre Vivienda y Comunidad Gitana en España 2007*. Madrid, Ministerio de Vivienda/Fundación Secretariado Gitano.
- Percentage of Roma homes considered as sub-standard housing has reduced from 21.4% in 1991 to 7.8% in 2007. FSG (2008): *Mapa sobre Vivienda y Comunidad Gitana en España 2007*. Madrid, Ministerio de Vivienda/Fundación Secretariado Gitano.

New **Housing and Rehabilitation State Plan 2013-2016** is in process to be approved. The State Council for the Roma People has actively been involved in its elaboration to ensure Roma community needs are appropriately address in it.

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6. HEALTH

- Please list the policies and programs that were designed and implemented to support the improvement of health care services for the Roma population in 2012 with a special focus on the goals and implementation of the Decade National Action Plan/National Roma Integration Strategy (if applicable)
- What are the outcomes of the initiatives (policy, program, activity) that your government implemented in 2012?
- Please describe how these policies and programs impact the Decade cross-cutting issues. In particular, how did they promote gender equality, combating discrimination and reducing poverty?
- Please specify if there are health mediators employed. If so, please specify what type of contract the health mediators have, how often do they have to renew it. Are there any trainings for health care providers in addressing the needs of Roma.
- Please identify the most important mainstream and targeted national, EU and other funded schemes launched in last year that will contribute to Roma inclusion in the area of health. Please, specify the activity, the funding source (national budget, international donors, ESF, ERDF, etc.), the operational program, the amount allocated, the goals to be reached, and the indicative number and share of Roma beneficiaries.

Please provide information about the following fields in 2012:

- Number of Roma covered by the national health insurance system
- Number of fully immunized Roma children
- Rate of infant and maternal mortality among the Roma population compared to the population as a whole
- Number of Roma women receiving pre and post natal health care; number who should receive such care but do not
- Roma life expectancy

Last year the National Roma Integration Strategy in Spain 2012-2020 was approved. Health is one of the four key areas for the social inclusion of Roma population that includes:

Accessibility, use and efficiency of healthcare services

- Fostering of policies and actions aimed at reducing health inequalities suffered by the Roma and other population groups, with priority for children, adolescents and young people, with the inclusion of the gender aspect.
- Reorientation of health services towards equality, in terms of areas for promotion and the prevention of diseases and healthcare assistance.

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- Inclusion of specific targets to reduce inequality and attention to diversity of normalised services in the National Healthcare System.
- Boosting promotion of lifelong health and, particularly, in Roma children and adolescents, including the establishment of active measures.

Administrative cooperation and participation

- Establishment of mechanisms to ensure an impact on the health of Roma by the various public strategies and plans of the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality and of autonomous communities.
- Promotion of Roma collaboration and participation and their associative fabric in intervention processes.
- Promotion of cross-section work and activities, fostering coordination with other entities and action plans, in all territorial areas as well as with other institutions.
- Coordinate with paediatric services in order to promote information and training circulation actions for Roma, particularly immigrants.
- Support and impulse of diversity-related training activities, intercultural capabilities and equality of (male and female) professionals that work in the health arena.
- Cultural adaptation of resources when necessary.

The National Roma Integration Strategy also sets the following health targets:

General and specific targets	Total population data (SNHS data, 2006)	Most recent Roma data (SNHS Roma data, 2006)	Target 2015 ³¹	Target 2020
TARGET 1.A. Improve health among the Roma and reduce social inequalities in healthcare: Intervention in the adult population				
Specific Target 1.1 <i>Improve the perception of health* of the Roma</i> <i>*(Perception of health as "good" or "very good" among 35 to 54 year olds).</i>	(M):75.9% (F): 65.7%	(M): 65.6% (F): 51.4%	(M):70% (F): 58%	(M): 76% (F): 66%
Specific Target 1.2 <i>Reduce traffic accidents of Roma over 16 years old.</i>	(M): 21.2% (F): 15.8%	(M): 41.6% (F): 27.9%	(M): 32% (F): 22%	(M): 22% (F): 16%
Specific Target 1.3. <i>Reduce smoking among male Roma over 16 years old.</i>	31.6%	54.9%	40%	30%

³¹ Given that the indicators depend on the development of the age structure, they will be analysed by adjusting data for age structure.

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Specific Target 1.4 <i>Reduce obesity among Roma women (>16 years).</i>	15.2%	26.4%	20%	15%
Specific Target 1.5 <i>Reduce the number of Roma women that have never had a gynaecological consultation.</i>	17.6%	25.3%	20%	16%
TARGET 1.B. Improve the health condition of the Roma and reduce social inequalities in healthcare: Intervention among children				
Specific Target 2.1 <i>Reduce the number of home accidents (house, stairs, lobby, etc.).</i>	(M): 26.4% (F): 27.8%	(M): 36.7% (F): 53.8%	(M): 30% (F): 40%	(M): 26%. (F): 28%.
Specific Target 2.2 <i>Reduce childhood obesity (2-17 years).</i>	(M): 10.2% (F): 9.4%	(M): 16.1% (F): 19.2%	(M) 13% (F): 14%	(M): 10% (F): 9%
Specific Target 2.3 <i>Increase dental assistance (no. of children that have never attended the dentist).</i>	(M): 39% (F): 38.4%	(M): 49.5% (F): 51.4%	45%	38%

SOURCES:

Sistema de Indicadores de Desarrollo de la Población Gitana. Grupo de Indicadores. Ministerio de Sanidad, Política Social e Igualdad. 2011.

Laparra, M. (coord.) (2011): *Diagnóstico social de la comunidad gitana en España; Un análisis contrastado de la Encuesta del CIS a Hogares de Roma 2007.* Madrid, Ministerio de Sanidad, Política Social e Igualdad.

La Parra, D. (2009): *Hacia la equidad en salud. Estudio comparativo de las encuestas nacionales de salud a población gitana y población general de España, 2006.* Madrid, MSC; FSG.

MSC / FSG (2005): *Salud y comunidad gitana. Análisis de propuestas para la actuación.* Madrid, Ministerio de Sanidad y Consumo.

Working on Health Equity for the Roma population was established as a priority since 2003 and is still a priority for the Health Promotion Area of the Spanish Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality. This work was developed first within the framework of a collaboration agreement between this Ministry and the Fundación Secretariado Gitano (2003- 2008). Since 2006, this work is developed with the collaboration of the Health Working Group of the State Council for the Roma People in which all members participate actively deciding lines of action to follow.

It is worth mentioning the Comparative Study of the National Health Surveys in Roma population and general population. In 2006 a Health National Survey of the Roma Population was carried out and was also compared with the National Health Survey for the general population. This fact had a great importance, because there was not any other previous national health study of Roma. The Roma population survey was designed with the same methodological guidelines as the National Health survey in order to allow the comparison.



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In 2008 the National Health Survey for Roma was compared with the National Health Survey for the general population. The results evidence that, despite there is universal access to the National Health System in Spain, there are inequalities in health within the general population and these disparities are bigger for the Roma population mainly because of their social determinants of health.

The analysis of this comparative study led to elaborate recommendations based on real needs; the Health Working group of the State Council for the Roma People prioritised some areas for action. These areas were included into the Health Area of the Action Plan for the Development of the Roma population of Spain 2010-2012 and later into the National Roma Integration Strategy in Spain 2012- 2020.

Our main goal during these years is that universal policies include systematically the Roma (Aiming for the mainstream). In this sense and to facilitate the reorientation of strategies, policies and activities to equity (which also means make them more inclusive) the Spanish Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality during the period from November 2010 to September 2011 carried out a “training process to integrate a focus on Social Determinants of Health and Equity into health strategies, programmes and activities”.

A Methodological Guide for the integration of equity into health Strategies Programmes and Activities (SPAs) was developed. This guide has the aim of raising awareness on health equity and the social determinants of health approach among professionals in the health sector and in those employed in sectors with impact on the health of the population at national, regional and local level; and provides a practical tool that eases the effective integration of equity into Health Strategies, Programmes and Activities³².

Actions currently being developed by the General Directorate of Public Health, Quality and Innovation

- Raising awareness of political decision-makers
- Raising awareness and training of health professionals
- Continuity in the dissemination of all publications arising from work performed:

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http://www.msssi.gob.es/profesionales/saludPublica/prevPromocion/promocion/desigualdadSalud/jornadaPresent_Guia2012/docs/Methodological_Guide_Equity_SPAs.pdf



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1. Health and the Roma Community

http://www.msssi.gob.es/profesionales/saludPublica/prevPromocion/promocion/desigualdadSalud/docs/Health_and_the_Roma_Community.pdf

2. Handbook for action in the area of health services with the Roma community

<http://www.msssi.gob.es/profesionales/saludPublica/prevPromocion/promocion/desigualdadSalud/docs/handbookHealthServices.pdf>

3. Comparative study of National Health Surveys in Roma population and general population in Spain, 2006

http://www.msssi.gob.es/profesionales/saludPublica/prevPromocion/promocion/desigualdadSalud/docs/equidadSalud_05Mayo.pdf

Informative summary:

<http://www.msssi.gob.es/profesionales/saludPublica/prevPromocion/promocion/desigualdadSalud/docs/folletoGitanosIngles.pdf>

4. "The Art of Healthy Living" video:

"The Art of Healthy Living" video has been elaborated within the framework of the National Strategy for Health Equity for the Roma Population and as an initiative of the Health Working Group of the State Council for the Roma People. This video shows, in a synthetic way, how the health on the Spanish Roma population is and its relation with life conditions and social determinants of health. The video, which was publicly presented at the II European Roma Summit held in Córdoba on April, 8-9th, 2010, was carried out taking into account the outcomes of the "Comparative study of National Health Surveys in Roma Population and General Population in Spain" and with the purpose of contributing to its diffusion.

<http://www.msssi.es/profesionales/saludPublica/prevPromocion/promocion/desigualdadSalud/video.htm>

It should be highlighted the dissemination of the Comparative study of National Health Surveys in Roma population and general population in Spain,

- Some Autonomous Communities such as Valencia, Asturias, Navarre, Madrid, Extremadura and Cantabria, among others, officially presented the study aiming to raise awareness.
- Our Ministry participated and collaborated with the regions on the dissemination of the Comparative Study and also presented the main results at different conferences and meetings.



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Other relevant strategic documents which have also impact on Roma health and health equity and which were developed during this period are as follows:

- **Strategic Plan for Citizenship and integration**

http://extranjeros.mtin.es/es/IntegracionRetorno/Plan_estrategico/pdf/PEClingles.pdf

Spanish legislation on migrants is based on the Constitution and has been developed through national, regional and local laws and ordinances. The laws also impact on the primary Welfare systems such as Healthcare and Education.

All of the registered migrants have universal access to the Healthcare system in the same way as the national citizens since 2000.

(Article 12 of the Act 4/2000 on the “Rights and liberties of foreigners in Spain and their social integration” regulates that non registered migrants have access in the following cases: emergencies, grave illness, casualties, minors and pregnant women).

In relation to the Health area of the Strategic Plan for Citizenship and integration, the three main objectives are:

- To guarantee immigrants’ right to health protection
- To improve identification of immigrant’s socially related health needs
- To improve the training of health personnel in health management techniques for the immigrant population

An updated version of this plan has been developed including the same main objectives included at this previous version.

- **EU Spanish Presidency, 2010**

One of the priorities of the Ministry of Health, Social Policy and Equality for the 2010 Spanish Presidency of the EU was “Innovation in Public Health: monitoring social determinants of health and reduction of inequalities in health”.

http://www.msssi.es/profesionales/saludPublica/prevPromocion/promocion/desigualdadSalud/PresidenciaUE_2010/conferenciaExpertos/presidenciaUE.htm

- **Experts’ Report: Moving forward Equity in Health**

A situation analysis report on this topic was developed in order to establish the framework for the events and activities related to this priority.



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http://www.mspsi.es/profesionales/saludPublica/prevPromocion/promocion/desigualdadSalud/PresidenciaUE_2010/conferenciaExpertos/docs/haciaLaEquidadEnSalud_en.pdf

The chapter IV of the report deals with Inequalities in child health (page 32). Chapter VI addresses Social exclusion and structural health inequality (page 41). Finally, Annex IV includes Information on the 2nd European Roma Summit (page 75)

• **Conclusions of the Employment, Social Services and Health Council (EPSSCO) Meeting**

We would like to highlight that one of the main outcomes of the priority of the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality on “Innovation in Public Health: Monitoring Social Determinants of Health and the Reduction of Health Inequalities” are the conclusions on “Equity and Health in All Policies”, approved the last June 8 in the EPSCO Council of Ministers, with which, from the General Directorate of Public Health, we have intended to contribute to the reduction of inequalities from a global perspective, integrating health in all sectors. These conclusions are available in the Annex I of the document and in the webpage of the Council of the European Union:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/lsa/114994.pdf

or at the Spanish Ministry of Health web page:

http://www.msssi.es/profesionales/saludPublica/prevPromocion/promocion/desigualdadSalud/PresidenciaUE_2010/conferenciaExpertos/docs/concluConsejoMinistros_En.pdf

Due to the special administrative organisation of our country, programmes are developed at the regional and local level. The competencies on health are a responsibility of the Autonomous Communities. The General State Administration is in charge of establishing strategic recommendations and facilitating the development of programmes.

On June 2010 the Action Plan for the Development of the Roma population of Spain 2010-2012 was presented to the Committee of Public Health of the Inter-territorial Council of the National Health System (coordination structures between the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality and the Regions).

In this Committee of Public Health, the General Directors of Public Health of the Spanish regions (Autonomous Communities) were invited to name a responsible for the coordination and follow up of the Health Area of the plan.

A non legislative proposal (proposición no de ley) for the promotion of Roma healthy lifestyles will be approved in the Parliament in the next few days.



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A Working group for the coordination and follow up of the Health Area of the Plan, in which are involved the regional representatives was established on March 2011.

The Spanish Ministry of Health is supporting (economically through grants (IRPF) and technically) a Network (Equi-sastipen network) for the promotion of Roma health in which 16 NGOs are involved.

Since the Spanish National Health System has universal access, all the Roma are benefited of all the health programmes including vaccination. Moreover, many efforts on facilitate accessibility and eliminate barriers of the system have been done.

A new National Survey of the Roma Population and its comparison with the National Survey for the whole population which will be published this year, will be carried out on 2013-2014.

This second national survey for Roma and the comparative study with the whole population will help us to evaluate the progress and the results of policies and actions carried out in the last years.

Due to Spanish Constitution and legislation on personal data protection which confers a special protection to data related to ethnicity there is a lack of concrete figures referred to the Roma community. Fortunately, more accurate data is becoming accessible through studies, surveys and reports.

Taking this into account, we present here some indicators of the positive developments generated in the health line of action during the past years, according to some of the mentioned studies:

- 26,3% of Roma men and 33,5% of Roma women have visited the doctor in the last two weeks compared to 22% and 32.9% of men and women of general population respectively. *Hacia la Equidad en Salud. Estudio comparativo de las encuestas nacionales de salud a población gitana y población general de España, 2006.*



DECADE OF
ROMA
INCLUSION
2005-2015

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Please list any other activities, initiatives and/or policies implemented in 2012 that were not part of the Decade of Roma Inclusion priority areas, but you consider relevant to Roma Inclusion (educational and institutional support for Roma culture and language, affirmative measures undertaken for Roma Youth; ensuring the right to freedom of movement within the EU; non-discrimination in the visa-free travel regime, etc.).

Last year the National Roma Integration Strategy in Spain 2012-2020 was approved. Beyond the four main strategic lines, the strategy includes the following complementary courses of action:

Social action

- Foster access for the Roma to all resources, goods and services, from the point of view of active participation in social insertion paths.
- Impulse for cooperation between Social Services and Public Employment Services for socio-labour insertion of the Roma that receive minimum income.
- Promotion of training for male and female Roma professionals in mediation and other social action areas.
- Knowledge improvement and access for Roma to Social Services benefits that they currently make little use of (such as Carer's Assistance).

Roma participation

- Promotion of the presence, participation and leadership of Roma people in the political and social sphere and in public institutions for both men and women.
- Strengthening and improvement of the work of the State Council of the Roma People and their Working Groups.
- Fostering of coordination channels between the State Council of the Roma People and Roma participation bodies at local and autonomous levels.
- Strengthening of the Roma associative movement, particularly of women's associations, promoting the development of capabilities in organisational and their democratic operations.
- Fostering of actions that favour Roma participation in organised areas of civil society, particularly young people and women.

Knowledge improvement

- Support for studies that improve social-demographic knowledge of the Roma, encouraging collaboration with administration bodies in charge of official statistics.
- Improvement of healthcare information systems at a local, autonomous and national level in order to identify needs and inequalities in terms of Roma, and maintaining a study alongside on the health of the Roma community.



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- Promotion of studies and research that allow for the evaluation of advances and difficulties of the education status of Roma students.
- Support for the development of regular studies and statistics that allow for the analysis of the Roma situation in the labour market, as well as analysis of paths for the transformation and modernisation of mobile trading.
- Support for the development of working tools, material and methods for specialised intervention, and the diffusion of successful elements.
- Support for the development of studies and research that contribute towards improving knowledge on discrimination to which Roma are victim.
- Fostering the circulation of best practice and the exchange of experience and knowledge transfer between various territories and entities, with particular attention to local level initiatives.

Cross-cutting gender focus

- Effective incorporation of the gender focus by Public Administrations in the design, development and evaluation of policies and programmes in the areas of education and training, employment, health and the fight against social exclusion.
- Fostering education centres for the promotion of gender equality in all measures that address young Roma people and their families.
- Development of studies on how gender violence affects Roma women, and the rolling out of preventative measures.

Non-discrimination and promotion of equal treatment

- Promotion of the effective application of European and Spanish legislation against discrimination, the fight against racism and hate crime, applying recommendations of the Council of Europe in terms of anti-discrimination and anti-Roma attitudes to Spain.
- Strengthening of cooperation with the State Council for the Promotion of Equal Treatment and active participation of Roma organisations.
- Elaboration of information and awareness materials that address reducing and eradicating the discrimination suffered by Roma.
- Development of training for civil servants and other key players, particularly legal professionals, the police service, public service and resources professionals and media professionals.
- Fostering of information, training actions and programmes for Roma, for awareness and knowledge of rights and duties.
- The establishment of extraordinary measures for Roma women victim of multiple discrimination.
- The performance of studies and reports that reveal the situation of discrimination of the Roma community (Panel on discrimination of the State Council for the Promotion of Equal Treatment).
- Support for programmes and services that provide guidance, accompaniment and legal advice to victims of discrimination (Victim support network).



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- Special assistance for discrimination of Roma people originating from other countries and the guarantee of their rights.

Social awareness

- Fostering of a communication strategy, including the promotion of media self-regulation plans concerning the treatment of information concerning Roma.
- Support for awareness campaigns for the general population, in order to tear down and remove prejudice and stereotypes that directly affect Roma, in order to achieve a real image of the Roma community.

Fostering and promotion of culture

- Fostering of institutional and social recognition of the value of Roma culture and its contribution to the common cultural sphere, as well as its outstanding features.
- Recognition, study and diffusion of the Roma language as the mother tongue of the Roma population.
- Institutional support for the Institute of Roma Culture and the diffusion of its activities of depicting and diffusing Roma history and cultural heritage.

Roma population originating from other countries

The Strategy will pay special attention to EU Roma citizens residing in Spain, or other Roma persons originating from third countries. The focus on work will be inclusive, to the extent that participation in measures and actions aimed at Spanish Roma will be extended. Likewise, where circumstances allow, specific measures and action will be rolled out in order to promote and ease social inclusion. These will, as a priority, focus on:

- Protection of fundamental rights by means of the effective application of European instruments, particularly directives on free movement and residence,³³ and anti-discrimination.³⁴
- Basic assistance and mediation activities with social services.
- School support and follow-up actions.
- Favouring inclusion in existing programmes and actions for training and access to employment.
- Health education activities and support for access to and use of healthcare services.
- Language learning.
- Access to housing in inclusive surroundings.

³³ European Directive 2004/38/EC on the rights of EU citizens and their family members to move and reside freely in the territory of Member states.

³⁴ European Directive 2000/43/EC implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin.



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- Promotion of transnational cooperation programmes, particularly with Romania, with the support of instruments provided by the European Social Fund.

For the development of these measures, special attention is paid to the implication of local authorities, particularly towns with a greater volume of European Roma citizens, or who have particular difficulties in terms of integration.

Micro territorial focus

It must be stressed that the Strategy does not adopt a specific micro territorial focus due to the high geographical dispersal of Roma. However many of the planned channels of action (particularly those corresponding to education, health and housing), are concentrated on the neighbourhoods or urban areas where there is a greater Roma presence. There are two channels in which the micro territorial focus has been taken into account:

- In actions to eradicate slums and sub-standard housing, that are concentrated in neighbourhoods or urban areas in which specific, wide reaching actions are necessary;
- In urban rehabilitation activities carried out in certain autonomous communities (such as urgent action neighbourhoods) which are focused on neighbourhoods in need of urban services improvements.³⁵

Political action at European level

- Continuity of active participation in European institutions and forums, including the Council of Europe, encouraging and carrying out initiatives in collaboration with other countries.
- Active participation in the European Platform for Roma Inclusion and the Decade of Roma Inclusion, 2005-2015.
- Continuity and strengthening of the European Network on Social Inclusion and Roma under the Structural Fund (EURoma).³⁶

³⁵ In general there is a significant Roma population in this type of neighbourhood, although they may not be the predominant group.

³⁶ This network was created in 2007 by the Administrative Unit of the European Social Fund in Spain and the Fundación Secretariado Gitano, with the aim of promoting the efficient use of Structural Funds for social inclusion of the Roma population. The network unites management authorities of the Structural Funds (principally ESF) and bodies responsible for Roma policies in 12 countries. Information available at: <http://www.euromanet.eu/>