



EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY:

**A FAIR CHANCE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF MARGINALIZED ROMA
IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE**

Draft for Consultations

Objectives, scope and structure of the upcoming report

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- **Objectives:**
 - ▣ Propose a conceptual framework to inform Roma inclusion interventions
 - ▣ Discuss policy and implementation options based on evidence
 - ▣ Highlight knowledge and institutional gaps
- **Scope:** New EU member countries
- **Structure:**
 - ▣ Part I: Conceptual framework: Equality of opportunity
 - ▣ Part II: the “How to”: Priority areas of intervention:
 1. Inclusive education
 2. Access to productive employment and upgrading skills
 3. Improving living conditions
 - ▣ Part III: Knowledge and capacity gaps looking forward

Outline

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- I. The Framework of the upcoming World Bank report on marginalized Roma: Equality of opportunity
- II. Three pillars to promote equality of opportunity:
 - I. Inclusive education
 - II. Access to productive employment
 - III. Better living conditions
- III. Questions for discussion

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I. The upcoming World Bank report

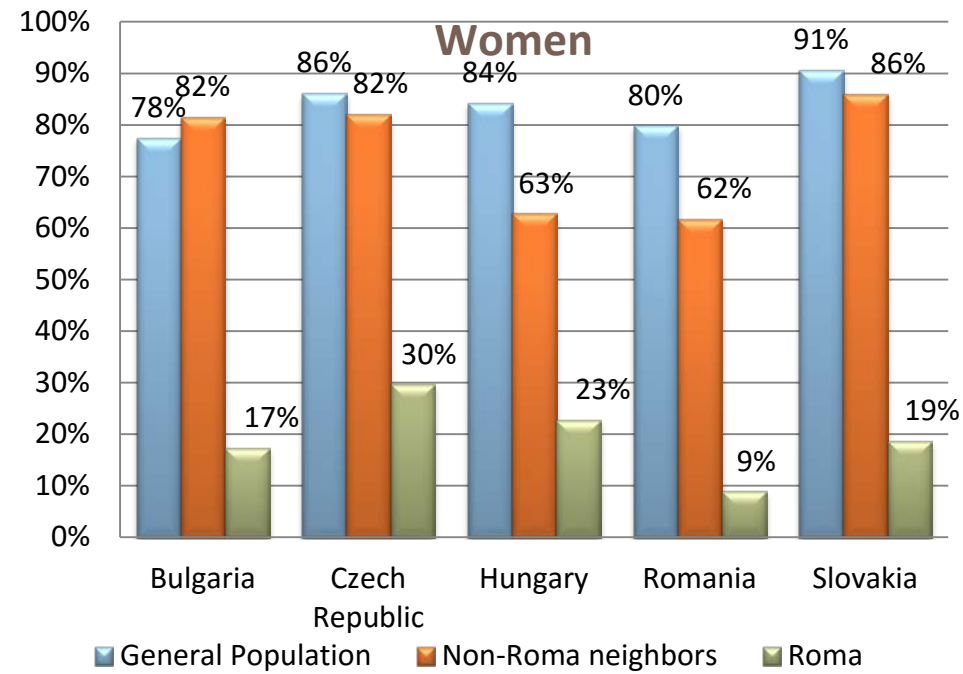
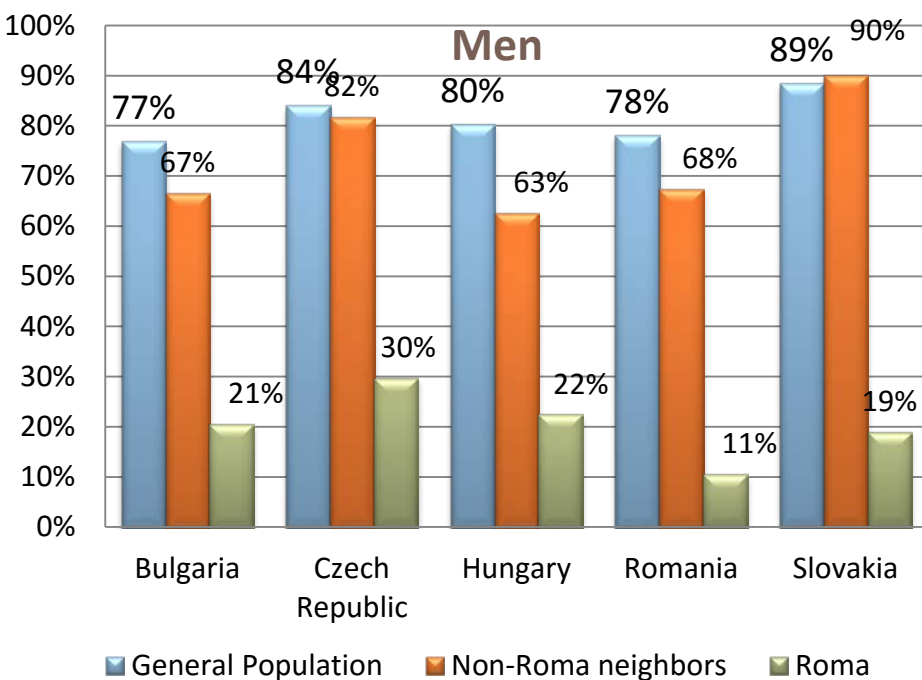
The framework

Making the case for equality of opportunity for marginalized Roma is an ethical imperative...

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Inequalities between Roma and non-Roma are deep and start early

Actual education attainment at (upper) secondary among 20-24 aged

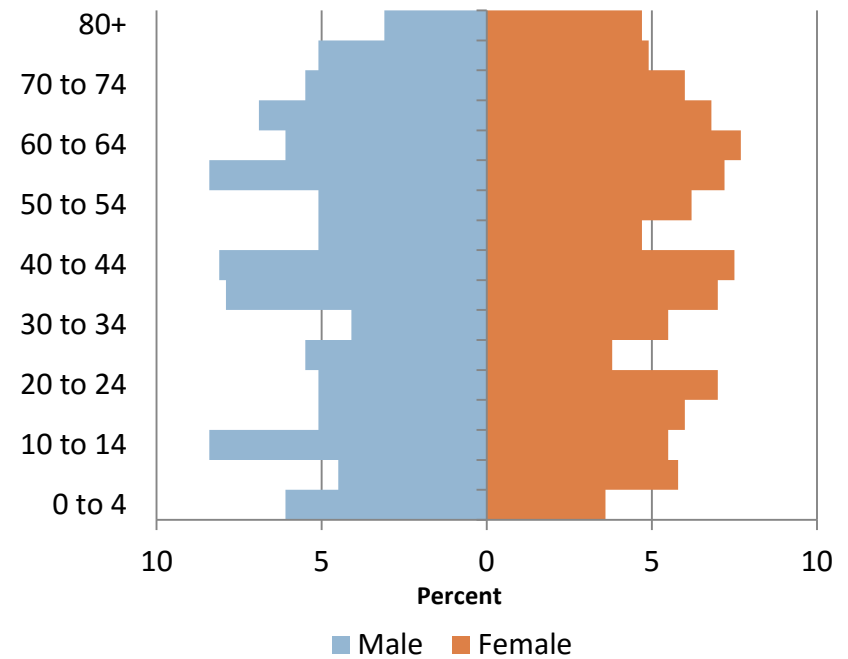
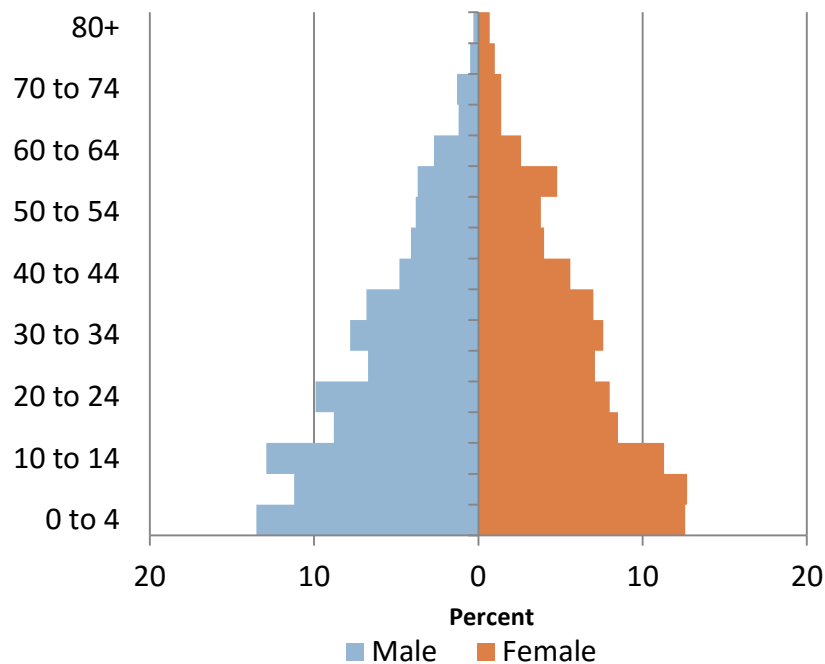


...and also smart economics in rapidly aging societies

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In Romania, between 6-20% of new labor market entrants are Roma.

Contrasting population pyramids in Romania



Source: UNDP/World Bank/EC regional Roma survey (2011) and United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2013). World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, DVD Edition

What does it mean for the next generation of Roma?

What is “equality of opportunity”?

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- The concept of equality of opportunity is based on the notion that **outcomes** for an individual are the result of two types of influences: “**circumstances**” and “**effort**” (Roemer, 1998).
- Inequality in outcomes that are due to different circumstances are usually thought of as unfair.
- **Equality of opportunities** in this context means to minimize differences in outcomes that are due circumstances that are beyond the individual control.

What is “equality of opportunity”? (ctd.)

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Circumstance

- Being born to illiterate parents

Opportunity that levels the playing field

- Access quality pre-school education for children
- Improving parenting skills for adults

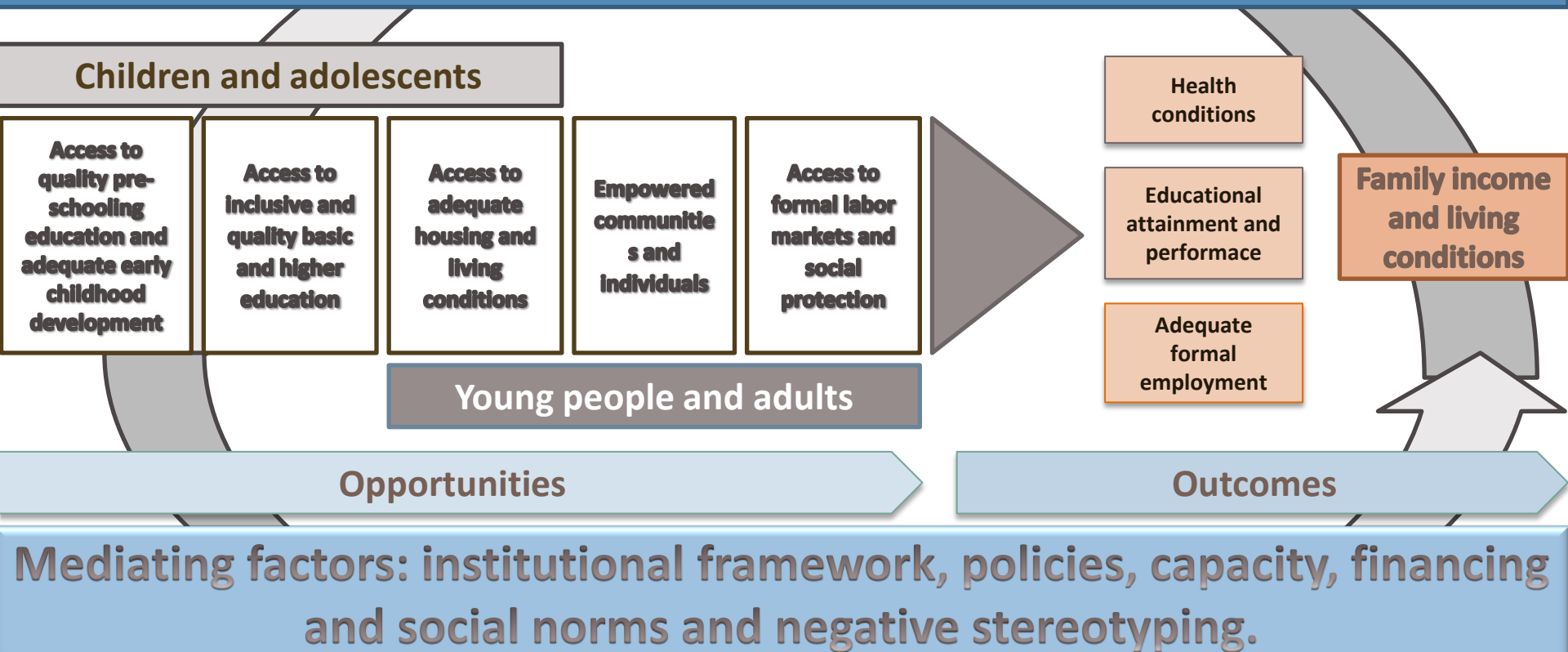
Outcome

- Improved cognitive stimulation and better nutrition
- Good foundations for later learning and productivity

What is “equality of opportunity”? (ctd.)

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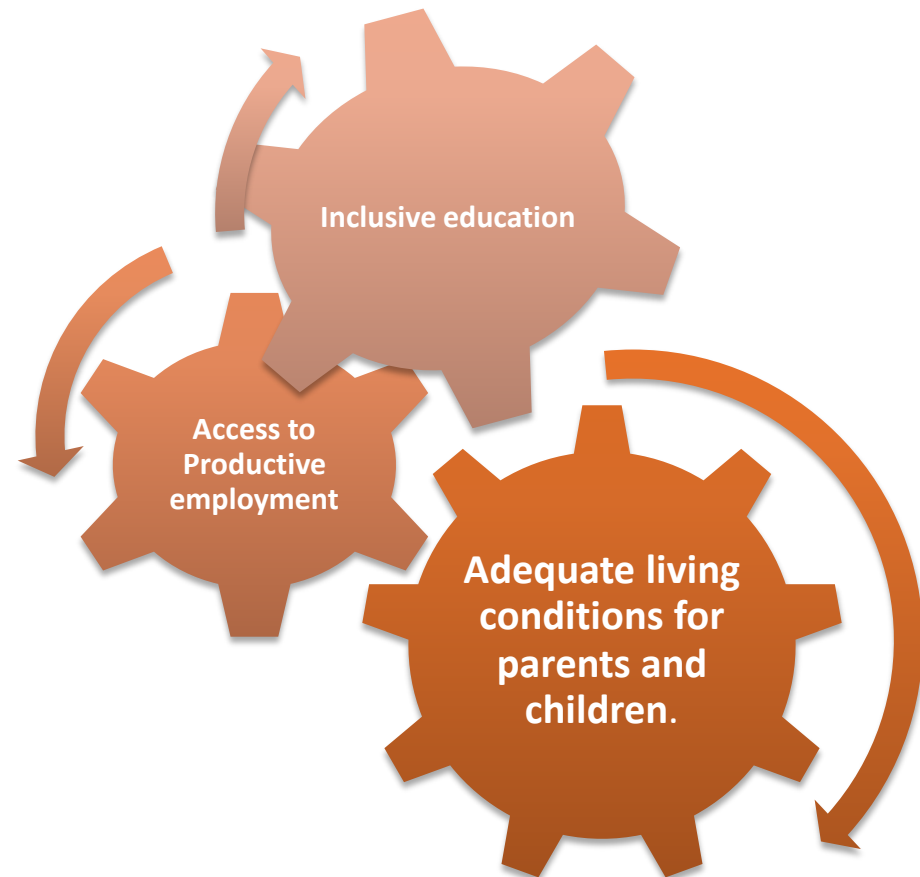
Equality of opportunity throughout the lifecycle



Priority areas of intervention

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- Adequate early care and stimulation bears relevant implications for life-long developmental outcomes.
- The socio-economic status of parents has shown to affect children's opportunities.
- The home and neighborhood in which children live have a significant impact on children's health status and educational attainment.



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Chapter 2: Promoting inclusive education

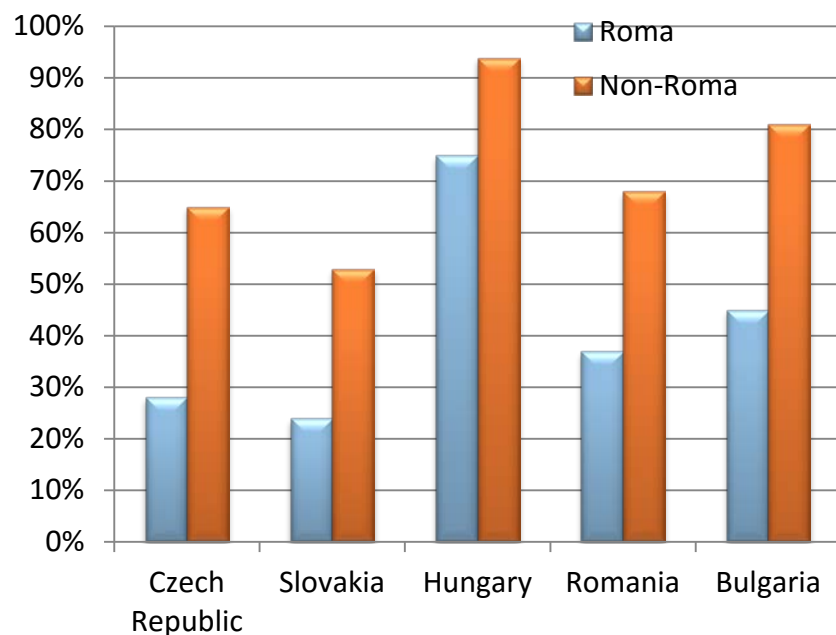
Emerging messages

Addressing gaps in education

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Significant educational gaps exist between Roma and non-Roma throughout all educational stages due to persistent barriers.

Pre-school attendance



Main reasons for Roma children not go to school or stop education

	Costs of education	Need to work	Judged to be sufficiently educated	Marriage/pregnancy
Czech Republic	7%	13%	17%	10%
Slovakia	17%	2%	25%	4%
Hungary	11%	12%	22%	15%
Romania	27%	10%	19%	11%
Bulgaria	32%	5%	15%	14%

Source: UNDP/WB/EC Regional Roma Survey 2011

Addressing gaps in education (ctd.)

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Key policy interventions:

1. Support adequate child development in the first 1000 days of life - *A Good Start by the Roma Education Fund*.
2. Invest in kindergartens and preschools - *SURE START program*.
3. Improve access to and quality of education throughout all grades - *“Bread Roll and Milk” “Teach for Bulgaria”, Full-Day Education System, Roma teaching assistants*.
4. Prevent the dropout of Roma children from primary and secondary education - *academic merit-based scholarships, “For The Road – MACIKA”*.
5. Generate evidence - *M&E activities*.

The Sure Start Program in Hungary

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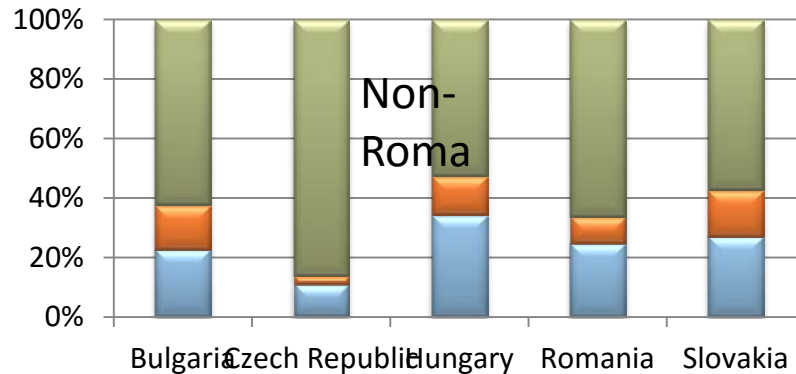
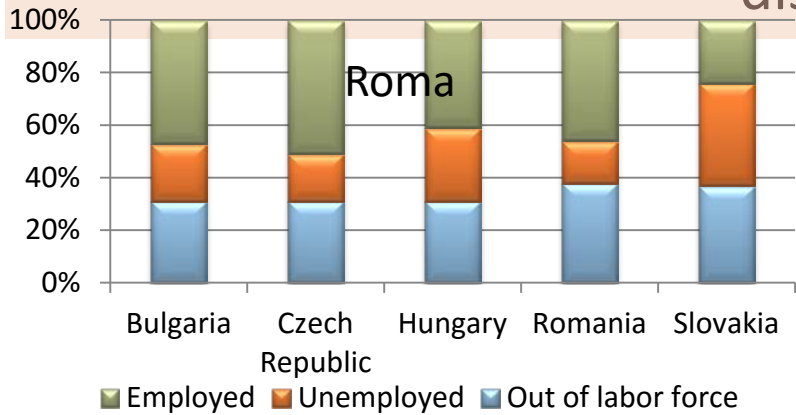
- Based on successful UK's Sure Start model.
- Started in 2003, today operates children centers in over 110 disadvantaged localities with large Roma populations.
- Aims to eliminate child poverty and exclusion.
- Provides services to 0-6 y.o. children and parents.
- Complements existing EC network, it does not replace it, but has a strong focus on vulnerable communities.

Chapter 3: Promoting access to productive employment

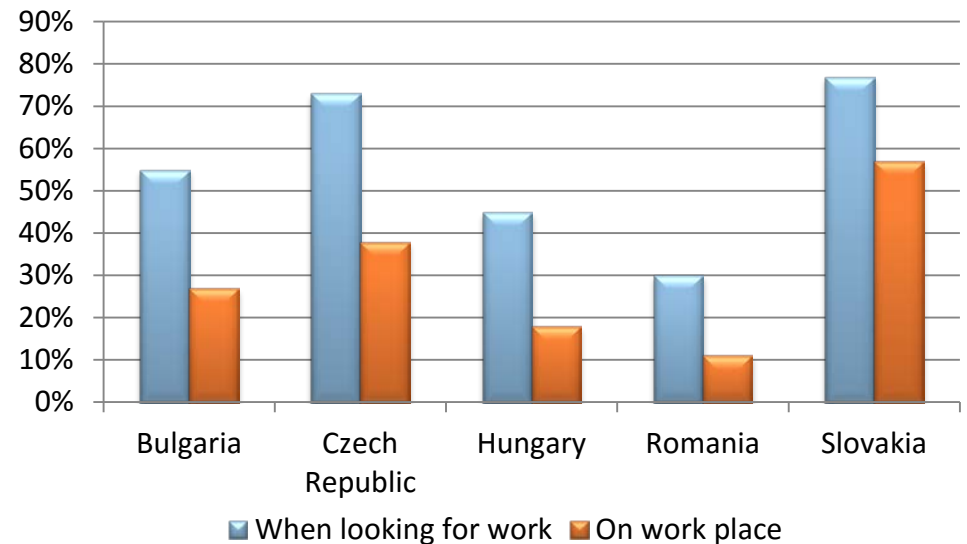
Emerging messages

Addressing employment gaps

Labor market outcomes differ between Roma and non-Roma significantly – due to lack of skills, constraints to participation, and discrimination



Roma jobseekers and employees experience systematic discrimination



Addressing employment gaps (ctd.)

Key policy interventions:

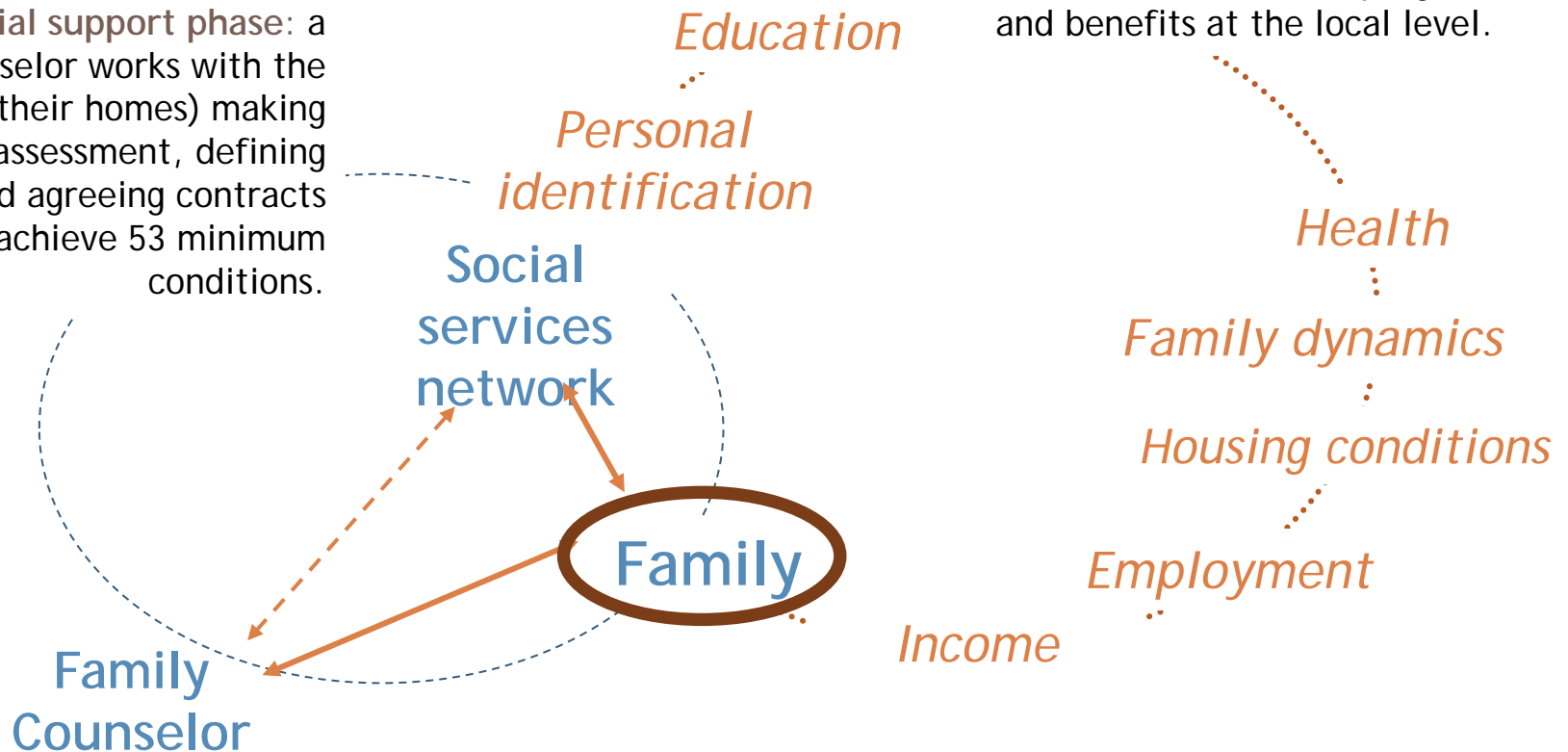
1. Fostering complementarities between the Public and Private Sectors – *Slovakia Sotomor*.
2. Setting up specific units targeting disadvantaged groups.
3. Improving ALMPs, moving beyond public employment programs and low quality training – *Chile Solidario*.
4. Providing integrated entrepreneurship programs – *Hungary Kiútprogram (“Way out”)*.
5. Strengthening the M&E framework and existing data.

Chile Solidario

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Intervention strategy

Psychosocial support phase: a family counselor works with the family (in their homes) making an assessment, defining priorities and agreeing contracts to achieve 53 minimum conditions.



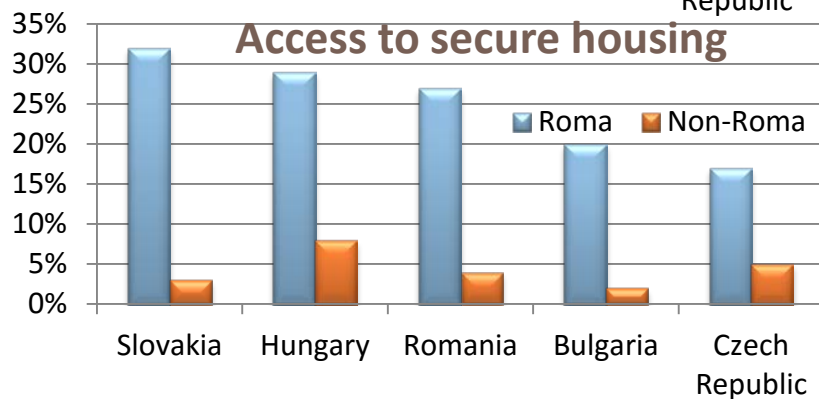
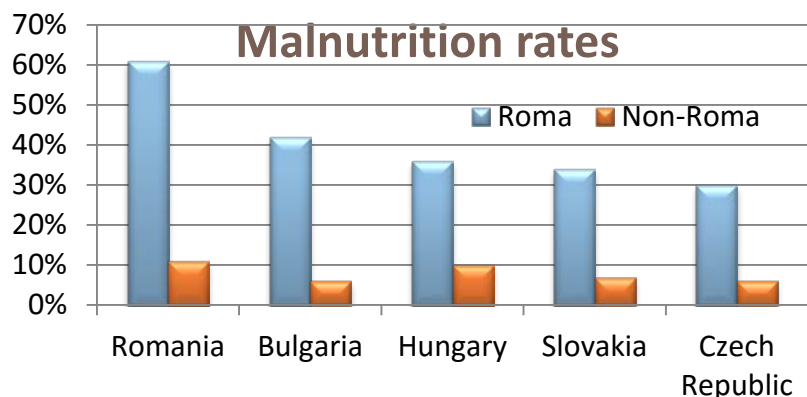
Chapter 4: Promoting adequate living conditions

Emerging messages

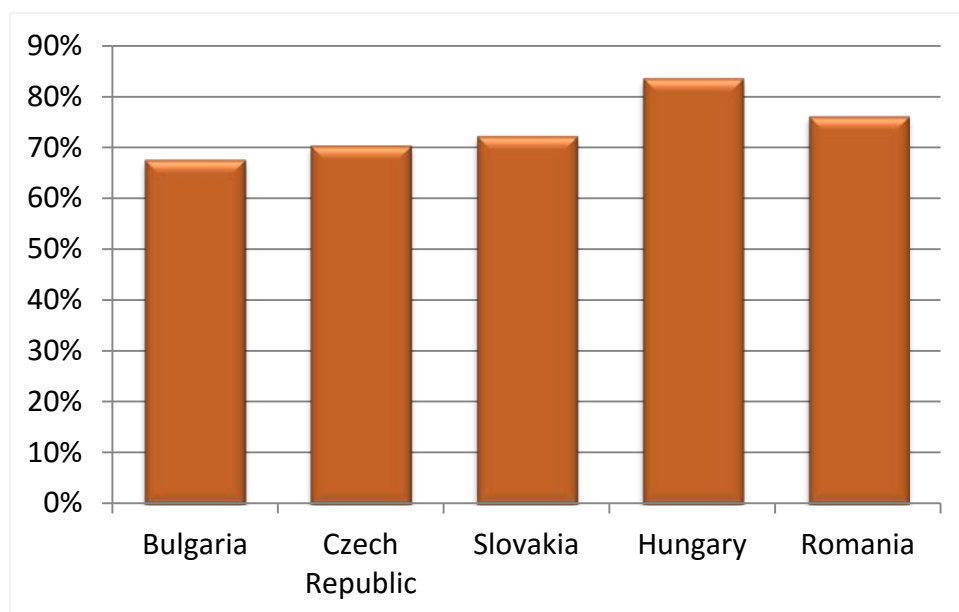
Addressing gaps in living conditions

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Roma live in poor conditions compared to non-Roma, facing material deprivation and spatial segregation.



Roma preference to live in a mixed area if living conditions were improved



Addressing gaps in living conditions (ctd.)

Key policy interventions:

1. Addressing the negative effects of gentrification in housing and neighborhood improvement interventions - *Magdolna Neighborhood Social Urban Rehabilitation Project in Hungary.*
2. Developing awareness-raising activities - *Govanhill HUB Partnership Project in Glasgow in Scotland.*
3. Focusing on social integration - *“A House, A Future” Project in Bălțești in Romania.*
4. Tackling affordability constraints and granting civil documents - *Flood Protection Project in Argentina, Inner Cities Basic Services Project in Jamaica.*
5. Promoting organizational capacity and active citizenship - *Post-Accession Rural Support Project (PARSP) in Poland.*

Magdolna Neighborhood Social Urban Rehabilitation Project in Hungary

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- Previously one of the most crowded and disadvantaged areas in Budapest.
- Comprehensive intervention since 2005 to improve it, including: (1) renovation of housing stock, (2) construction of community center, (3) organization of activities such as job search clubs, special youth programs, vocational training for single mothers, crime prevention, among others.
- Effectiveness ensured through the participation of the local population.

Some Questions for Discussion

- 1) Does the “equality of opportunity” framework capture the key factors related to Roma inclusion? If not, what is missing?
- 2) Does the report focus and structure adequately reflect the needs, priorities and opportunities for Roma inclusion interventions in your country? If not, how could it be improved?
- 3) Can you share with us relevant research and literature that you think the report would benefit from?
- 4) Can you share with us examples of interventions that have demonstrated measurable results in Eastern Europe on
 - ▣ Promoting early childhood education of Roma children;
 - ▣ Facilitating skills and employability;
 - ▣ Addressing stereotypes and discrimination;
 - ▣ Improving living conditions?

Thank you for your attention

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- For comments, suggestions or inquiries, please contact
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- For more information about the World Bank's work on Roma inclusion, please visit www.worldbank.org/roma