



MigRom Project

The immigration of Romanian Roma to Western Europe: Causes, effects and future engagement strategies.

Presentation and first results

What is MigRom?

- Research consortium (academic – senior and junior researchers, Roma research assistants- and non-academic partners – Romani NGO and local authority)
- Funded by the EC 7th Framework Research Programme, led by University of Manchester
- Carried out in Roma migrants communities in France, Italy, Spain, UK, and in origin communities in Romania

- Ethnography of Roma Migration
- Identifies good practice of integration
- Capacity building for communities
- Policy recommendations and models for authorities.

Key findings

- Migration connected to social segregation and extreme poverty linked to the collapse of state sector in 1990
- Search for a stable future
- Family migration
- Young population with low level of vocational skills

Social inclusion of Roma migrants

- Use of opportunities in destination communities: health, education, employment, housing
- Inclusion pattern similar to that of other immigrant populations

Migration as development support for origin communities

- Key role in helping develop the long-term social and economic standing of Roma communities in the origin countries.

Challenges

- Access to housing and its consequences on schooling
- Persistence of negative images in media and in public statements by officials
- Prejudices from authorities and third sector agencies against Roma communities and their consequences on public policies
- Need to avoid dependency and support self reliance

Recommendations

- Mainstreaming
- Housing
- Education
- Health
- Employment
- Empowerment
- Role of authorities

Thank you for your attention.