EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 3.11.2026
SWD(2026) 330 final

COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT
Accompanying the document

REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN AND ECONOMIC COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

on the progress made in the implementation of the national Roma strategic frameworks in light of the EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation and the Council Recommendation on Roma equality, inclusion and participation

{COM(2026) 602 final}

Contents

INTRODUCTION 2
Table 1 - Belgium 3
Table 2 - Bulgaria 8
Table 3 - Czechia 14
Table 4 - Denmark 20
Table 5 - Germany 23
Table 6 - Estonia 28
Table 7 - Ireland 33
Table 8 – Greece 38
Table 9 - Spain 44
Table 10 - France 50
Table 11 - Croatia 56
Table 12 - Italy 61
Table 13 - Cyprus 66
Table 14 - Latvia 70
Table 15 - Lithuania 74
Table 16 - Luxembourg 78
Table 17 - Hungary 82
Table 18 - The Netherlands 89
Table 19 - Austria 94
Table 20 - Poland 99
Table 21 - Portugal 104
Table 22 - Romania 109
Table 23 - Slovenia 115
Table 24 - Slovakia 120
Table 25 - Finland 126
Table 26 - Sweden 131
APPENDIX: Country overview of quantitative targets set in their NRSFs 135

INTRODUCTION

This staff working document (SWD) provides country-specific assessments of progress in the implementation of the National Roma Strategic Frameworks (NRSFs), presented in the form of individual country factsheets. Like the main report, it covers the reporting period from 1 June 2023 to 31 March 2025.

The country factsheets address the main areas covered by the EU Roma Strategic Framework and 2021 Council Recommendation. They assess progress made, including key developments, include input based on the Roma civil monitoring country reports, and present the Commission's assessment. They also highlight promising practices to support mutual learning among Member States. They were prepared by the Commission services.

The SWD also includes an Appendix, which is an overview of the quantitative targets set in the NRSFs, and progress made as reported by Member States with significant Roma populations. The Appendix was prepared by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA).

Table 1 - Belgium

Belgium	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	Building on its 2012 strategy, Belgium adopted the national Roma integration strategy 2020-2030[1] as its national Roma strategic framework (NRSF) in 2022. Closely aligned with the EU Roma strategic framework, the current NRSF outlines 32 actions addressing both horizontal and sectoral objectives.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	Council of Europe estimates range between 20 000 and 40 000 individuals, with around 7 000 to 10 000 being Travellers, often with Belgian nationality[2].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Federal public planning service for Social Integration, anti-Poverty Policy, Social Economy and Federal Urban Policy (PPS SI)
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP coordinates and monitors the implementation of the NRSF, contributing to its design and development across all areas of intervention. It provides Roma-specific expertise and facilitates dialogue, notably through the National Roma Platform. Although it has no direct mandate in mainstreaming Roma issues or EU fund management, it promotes coherence by fostering exchanges and maintaining informal cooperation with regional authorities. The Ministry collaborates with various stakeholders, including regional governments, local authorities, equality bodies, and civil society organisations. During the reporting period, the NRCP operated with an annual budget of EUR 30 000 and part-time staffing, limiting its operational capacity.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: The national anti-racism plan[3] and the NRSF provide the main foundation for monitoring and preventing discrimination against Roma in Belgium. Under this objective, key achievements include the continuation of awareness campaigns, support for discrimination victims, and symbolic actions such as events for the International Roma Day led by Equal Brussels4 (a public authority of the Brussels Region). The "Label – Promotion of Citizenship and Interculturality" project5, also backed by the French Community, aimed to raise awareness among young people and professionals about stereotypes and antigypsyism. Additionally, the "Reflections. Roma in Belgium" travelling exhibition6 showcased personal stories of Roma individuals, thereby increasing awareness through education and art. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** Civil society organisations (CSOs) acknowledge the progress made in implementing awareness-raising activities and measures to support victims of discrimination. However, they highlight that there are no formal mechanisms to recognise and address antigypsyism, which is not yet defined or treated as a distinct structural form of racism. This lack of a specific definition contributes to the strategy treating discrimination as	

[1] Available at: https://www.mi-is.be/sites/default/files/documents/2020-2030_-_strategie_nationale_pour_lintegration_des_roms_-_be.pdf.
[2] Available at: https://www.google.com/rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[3] Available at: https://equal.belgium.be/fr/que-fait/plans-daction/plan-daction-contre-le-racisme.
[4] Available at: https://equal.brussels/fr/.
[5] Available at: https://coppieters.wallonie.be/home/communiques-de-presse/presses/labels-2026-un-soutien-durable-aux-acteurs-engages-pour-la-citoyennete-l-interculturalite-et-l-egalite-des-droits.html .
[6] Available at: https://www.mi-is.be/nl/themas/armoede/integratie-roma/belgisch-nationaal-roma-platform/werkingsjaar4-2019-2021.

a general measure rather than a dedicated area of intervention. CSOs also call for strengthened discrimination-reporting systems through targeted outreach to Roma and Traveller communities, media campaigns countering negative stereotypes, and historical recognition through school curricula and public memorials.

ASSESSMENT: Belgium could strengthen its approach to combating antigypsyism by developing non-discrimination into a dedicated policy area supported by targeted funding and measurable actions. Institutionalising the recognition of antigypsyism as a specific and structural form of racism would provide a clearer basis for addressing anti-Roma discrimination. While legal constraints on ethnic data collection exist, the development of proxy indicators and disaggregated data - in collaboration with Roma and Traveller communities - is vital to transition from ad hoc projects to a systemic and evidence-based inclusion policy.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Progress is reflected in a mix of targeted and mainstream interventions. Long-standing organisations such as Foyer vzw[7], and the Centre de Médiation des Gens du Voyage et Roms[8] continue to provide vital mediation services, improving access to housing, social services, and rights. In Wallonia, the mandatory integration pathway equips Roma newcomers with language skills, civic knowledge, and tailored[9] guidance through structured regional support. The Walloon anti-racism plan (2023–2026) and, since 2023, specialised mediation services for Travellers further reinforce this framework. Efforts have also been made to increase awareness of the Belgian equality body among Roma and Travellers to address underreporting.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight the need to prioritise the development of permanent halting sites for Traveller communities to ensure stable living conditions and access to essential services, while engaging local stakeholders to overcome resistance and promote inclusive solutions. Further investments in support structures and innovative initiatives that address evolving community needs are required. CSOs also mention the importance of: (i) strengthening measures within the NRSF to tackle child poverty; (ii) enhancing protection for Roma minors; and (iii) improving welfare support for homeless Roma children to prevent further marginalisation.

ASSESSMENT: Belgium could build on existing social inclusion measures, such as the Wallonia integration pathway, by addressing the lack of structural numerical data through the development of proxy indicators (e.g., service uptake and regional poverty data). A key priority remains the expansion of equipped stopping places for Travellers, which has faced significant bureaucratic obstacles. Transitioning from project-based support to systemic welfare protection for Roma minors—particularly those facing homelessness—is essential to breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: A key achievement is the development of a community-based Roma stewardship model within Foyer vzw's Roma and Traveller service in Brussels, supported by the Flemish Community Commission10. Through trained Roma stewards acting as trusted mediators, the initiative has strengthened links between Roma families and local institutions, improving access to education, healthcare, and employment. Through coordinated outreach and collaboration with local services, the initiative has contributed to more inclusive neighbourhoods and improved access to public services for Roma families.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight advancements in specific local models but call for greater structural support and involvement of Roma CSOs in decision-making. They emphasise the need for: (i) formal mechanisms allowing Roma-led organisations to actively shape, plan, and monitor social inclusion policies; (ii) enhanced functioning of the National Roma Platform with broader participation and transparent processes to ensure community input translates into political influence; and (iii) increased funding for Roma-led organisations to enable sustainable operation and an effective policy contribution.

ASSESSMENT: Belgium could build on existing community-led models, such as the Roma stewardship programme in Brussels, while addressing institutional factors that affect structural participation. Strengthening the mandate of the NRCP could be considered, as it is currently consulted without having a leading role in integrating Roma issues into

[7] Available at: https://www.foyer.be/dienst-roma-woonwagenbewoners.
[8] Available at: https://actionsociale.wallonie.be/home/thematiques/gens-du-voyage-et-roms/centre-de-mediation-des-gens-du-voyage-et-des-roms.html.
[9] Available at: https://www.caw.be/over-caw/organisatie/caw-brussel/.
[10] Available at: https://be.brussels/en/about-region/structure-and-organisations/community-associations-and-committees/flemish-community-commission-vgc.

broader social inclusion policies. The NRCP also has no formal involvement in decisions related to EU funds. Roma organisations could be involved in ESF+ programming and monitoring committees. Supporting Roma organisations financially and using the National Roma Platform to facilitate the inclusion of community perspectives in regional decision-making would further strengthen participation.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: The 'Promoting literacy and training for Travellers and Roma' project, led by the Mediation Centre for Travellers and Roma in Wallonia (CMGW), provides French and numeracy courses for Traveller children aged 6 to 12, to prevent school dropout during the travel period. Roma mediators also provide school-related guidance, particularly for Roma children from Central and Eastern Europe, bridging the gap between families and schools. In Flanders, the 'Bridge Figures' (Brugfiguren) initiative under the plan Samenleven[11] further support inclusion by connecting vulnerable families, including Roma, to educational and municipal services.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge progress in mediation and literacy initiatives but highlight persistent barriers facing Traveller children, including low attendance, early dropout, and illiteracy. They emphasise the need for targeted NRSF measures to improve attendance and reduce dropout rates, supported by stable housing solutions that minimise disruptions to schooling. Addressing the shortage of legal residential sites is essential to ensure consistent school participation and uphold children's right to education. Dedicated research and monitoring initiatives are needed to better understand and overcome these persistent barriers.

ASSESSMENT: Belgium is encouraged to build on positive progress by strengthening early and sustained participation, particularly by increasing access to preschool education and reducing early school leaving among Traveller children. Continued support through Roma mediators and literacy programmes provides a strong foundation and could be complemented by more tailored guidance during key educational transitions. Addressing the structural challenges of Considering Belgium's federalised education system, it will be crucial to ensure that community-level insights inform the broader implementation of the strategy and that successful pilot projects receive sustainable funding. Strengthening data collection and monitoring systems would support more evidence-based policymaking.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: Progress under this objective is mainly reflected in the implementation of targeted, project-based employment initiatives. The **'**Rom Werkt'[12] project in Brussels builds on the earlier 'Roma&Work'[13] initiative by targeting unemployed Roma from Romanian and Bulgarian backgrounds and Syrian Doms, offering tailored support to overcome complex challenges and promote sustainable labour market integration. In parallel, ESF Call 457 'Outreach & Activation'[14] in Flanders supports integrated, outreach-based measures targeting inactive jobseekers, including projects focusing on Roma. These initiatives adopt a holistic approach, combining employment support with assistance in addressing administrative, social, and legal barriers. The involvement of Roma stewards helps build trust and improve access to services.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge the importance of projects such as Rom Werkt but call for stronger employment inclusion through tailored programmes for Travellers and refugees addressing housing instability, low qualifications and language barriers. They stress the need to better mainstream Roma employment support into regional policies with sustainable funding and coordination. They also highlight the need to reinforce anti-discrimination in hiring, enforce anti-racism policies, and promote digital literacy to improve access to labour markets. Clear benchmarks, sector-specific data and regular national reporting are needed to effectively monitor progress in Roma employment.

ASSESSMENT: Belgium demonstrates continued commitment to Roma labour market integration through ESF+-funded measures. Within the Belgian ESF+ programmes, EUR 302.6 million has been allocated to employment measures, from which Roma may benefit indirectly. Initiatives such as 'Rom Werkt' and ESF Call 457 demonstrate a

[11] Available at: https://www.vlaanderen.be/plan-samenleven.
[12] Available at: https://maksvzw.org/roms-doms/.
[13] Available at: https://jobroad.be/en/about-jobroad/project-13-romawork-2-0-bxl/.
[14] Available at: https://www.esf-vlaanderen.be/nl/oproepen/oproep-outreach-activering.

growing emphasis on integrated, outreach-based approaches addressing multiple barriers to labour market participation. At the same time, further efforts are needed to strengthen the structural dimension and targeting of employment policies. Improved coordination, sustainable funding, and clearer monitoring mechanisms would enhance impact. In this context, inclusive initiatives such as the Flemish ESF+ Local Partnerships can contribute to more equal access to employment by addressing complex, individual needs.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Belgium did not report on this objective.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight the need to develop targeted health outreach campaigns in Roma communities on the topics of sexual and mental health and raise awareness about LGBTQ+ issues. They also call for the creation of national health education programmes tailored specifically to the needs and specific health challenges of Roma, promoting early marriage prevention, nutrition, and chronic illness management.

ASSESSMENT: Belgium is encouraged to strengthen its approach by considering targeted outreach and health education measures, in cooperation with Roma organisations and intercultural mediators, to support preventive care, reproductive health, and chronic disease management. Despite universal healthcare coverage, engagement with services may be affected by limited awareness of preventive care, stigma around sexual and mental health, and cultural sensitivities. Strengthening and sustainably funding community health worker and mediation networks may improve trust, communication, and access. Flemish local partnerships, supported by ESF+15, may also contribute to improving access to social services.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Progress under this objective was reported in Wallonia through the implementation of the 'Housing First'16 pilot project in partnership with public housing authorities in Namur, which provided vacant buildings for Roma families and combined housing with integrated social, educational and employment support. The CMGV supports Roma families facing administrative, legal and housing challenges, facilitating access to services, residence procedures and housing solutions through mediation. In addition, Wallonia provides support to municipalities to host Travellers, including subsidies and the appointment of local coordinators. No comparable measures or progress were reported for other regions.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge the importance of projects such as 'Housing First'. However, they emphasize the need to expand authorised halting and residential caravan sites, particularly in Flanders, to provide long-term, legal housing options for Travellers while addressing local resistance. Housing segregation and poor living conditions should also be tackled, by involving Roma in urban planning, and by collecting disaggregated data to monitor access to social and emergency housing. A coordinated, long-term national housing strategy is needed to move beyond temporary or CSO-driven solutions, supported by strong political commitment and enforceable measures that guarantee adequate housing for Roma communities.

ASSESSMENT: Belgium is encouraged to continue utilising available funding instruments to improve housing conditions for Roma and Travellers. While the 'Housing First' pilot in Wallonia reflects a promising integrated approach, measures remain largely project-based and regionally concentrated, with no comparable actions reported in other regions. Expanding authorised halting and residential caravan sites - particularly in Flanders - remains a key priority, as highlighted by civil society. Strengthening the targeting of housing investments and ensuring that Roma and Traveller needs are more explicitly reflected in programme design would increase effectiveness. Developing proxy indicators and disaggregated data to monitor access to social and emergency housing would support more evidence-based policymaking and contribute to more equitable housing outcomes.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRCP promotes exchange and alignment through the national Roma platform and

[15] Available at: https://www.esf-vlaanderen.be.
[16] Available at: https://housingfirsteurope.eu/country/belgium/.

informal contacts with regional actors. Due to Belgium's federal structure, the design and implementation of most social inclusion policies rest with the regional governments and there is no central system of coordination or reporting. The Belgian equality body, UNIA, follows up on case laws on hate crimes against Roma. Based on reported discrimination and hate crimes, UNIA provides training, writes policy recommendations and conducts research on discrimination and equality, while actively participating in the national Roma platform.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report that Roma civil society plays a limited and largely symbolic role in NRSF-related processes, with involvement mainly confined to project delivery in education, employment, and mediation. Roma participation remains low, informal, and without institutional representation, and no formal monitoring processes include Roma CSOs. The Roma Civil Monitor remains the sole independent oversight mechanism. While the equality body leads national efforts against hate crimes, Roma and pro-Roma CSOs lack coordinated tools to monitor or report incidents. There is a need to establish inclusive mechanisms that empower Roma CSOs, institutionalise meaningful participation, and strengthen the response to hate crimes.

ASSESSMENT: To strengthen Roma inclusion in Belgium, authorities could consider moving beyond consultative engagement by ensuring Roma CSOs have meaningful influence on NRSF design and implementation. Institutionalising Roma representation in monitoring and policymaking may enhance their contribution and visibility**.** Improved coordination among Roma and pro-Roma organisations to monitor and report hate crime incidents, supported by appropriate institutional frameworks, could reinforce responses to discrimination and complement existing equality efforts led by UNIA. In Flanders, the Roma Expert Network offers a platform for Roma experts to share knowledge with municipalities and regional authorities, supporting more informed and inclusive policymaking.

PROMISING PRACTICES

The 'Housing First' pilot project[17], conducted in partnership with the Walloon Housing Society in Namur, is identified as a key promising practice. The project provided two vacant buildings for Roma families, combining housing with integrated social, educational, and employment support, thus marking a concrete step towards sustainable housing inclusion.

In Flanders, policies focus on concrete issues faced by individuals and families - such as housing, health, education and training, language and digital skills, exclusion and unemployment. This approach is reflected in the Flemish ESF+ Local Partnership projects operating across Flanders and Brussels, which support sustainable labour market participation of persons with multiple complex challenges. Municipalities such as Antwerp, Ghent and Roeselare received additional support due to relatively high numbers of EU-13 citizens, many of whom are Roma. Local Partnerships provide tailored one-stop-shop support based on a 360-degree needs assessment and can engage external expertise when needed, thereby also supporting Roma in overcoming barriers to labour market participation.

[17] Available at: https://housingfirsteurope.eu/country/belgium/.

Table 2 - Bulgaria

Bulgaria	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	National strategy of the Republic of Bulgaria for equality, inclusion, and participation of the Roma 2022-2030 (national Roma strategic framework, NRSF)[18].
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	266 720 (according to the 2021 census) or 4.4% of the Bulgarian population.[19] Council of Europe estimates: approximately 750 000 Roma live in Bulgaria (9.94% of the population)[20]
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Secretariat of the National Council for Cooperation on Ethnic and Integration Issues - Department for Prevention and Protection from Domestic Violence, Cooperation on Ethnic and Integration Issues, and Interaction with Civil Society (DPCEI).
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP operates with an annual budget of approximately EUR 30 600 and three staff members for the 2023-2025 period. It reports to the Chief Secretary of the Council of Ministers and supports the coordination and monitoring of Roma inclusion policies. A key function of the NRCP is mainstreaming Roma issues across sectoral policies and ensuring their integration into national strategies. It also plays an active role in the programming and monitoring of EU funds, including participation in the Joint Monitoring Committee of the 2021-2027 Partnership Agreement and in the Monitoring Committee of the 2021-2027 Human Resources Development Programme. Through these roles, NRCP contributes to integrating Roma inclusion priorities into national development and EU-funded interventions.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: A key achievement is progress in strengthening the implementation of European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) judgments. A proposal for a national mechanism to support execution of ECtHR decisions was prepared, alongside a review of analyses and measures on Roma housing conditions and proportionality in eviction cases. An action plan was also developed to support national commitments, including practical guidelines for proportionality assessments in forced evictions and a coordination mechanism for municipal authorities. These results were enabled by strong cooperation with the Department for the Implementation of ECtHR Decisions in the Council of Ministers, the use of Council of Europe member states' best practices and comparative law, and the involvement of expert panels bringing together key institutional stakeholders. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY**: CSOs report that anti-Roma attitudes and discrimination remain widespread and inadequately addressed in Bulgaria and that current measures receive insufficient priority within the NSRF. Key actions needed include: (i) raising awareness in Roma communities about their rights; (ii) providing mandatory anti-discrimination training for public staff; (iii) ensuring strong political commitment and public statements against hate speech; and (iv) strengthening the Commission for Protection against Discrimination through additional resources and expanded enforcement powers. **ASSESSMENT**: Bulgaria has taken important steps to strengthen the implementation of ECtHR judgments, including through the development of coordination mechanisms, practical guidance on proportionality assessments in evictions, and enhanced institutional cooperation. These measures provide a stronger basis for improving safeguards in cases	

[18] National Strategy of the Republic of Bulgaria for equality, inclusion and participation of the Roma (2021 - 2030). Available at: https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2021-12/national_strategy-_english_google.docx.pdf
[19] National Statistical Institute, *Ethno-cultural characteristics of the population as of 7 September 2021,* Available at: https://www.nsi.bg/en/press-release/ethno-cultural-characteristics-of-the-population-as-of-september-7-2021-6833
[20] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.

affecting Roma communities. Moving forward, effective implementation and sustained political commitment will be essential to ensure that these frameworks translate into concrete improvements on the ground. Further efforts could focus on: (i) strengthening protection against antigypsyism and discrimination; (ii) improving access to justice for Roma in remote communities; and (iii) ensuring more structured participation of Roma civil society organisations in policy design, monitoring and implementation processes.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Bulgaria reported that the Food and Basic Material Support Programme has contributed to poverty reduction and improved access to quality care and social services for Bulgaria's most vulnerable children, while indirectly helping families build parenting capacities and find sustainable solutions to poverty. Achievements have been supported by targeted outreach, the involvement of Roma mediators, and efforts to engage new municipalities. This has been accompanied by strong coordination between the SACP, Child Protection Departments, schools, healthcare facilities, and social services, ensuring high-quality, rights-compliant support.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL THE SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge progress in social assistance, notably the 2023 reform replacing the guaranteed minimum income and linking monthly assistance to 30% of the national poverty line. The 2024 National Map of Social Services further standardised access to local state-funded social and health services. While support increased and Employment Office registration was eased, the base amount of minimum income remains very low. Benefits remain below the poverty line and fail to address extreme poverty among Roma families. Conditionalities such as reducing benefits by 70% if a child misses five school hours and reliance on registered addresses exclude the most vulnerable, while services remain largely passive and insufficiently targeted.

ASSESSMENT: Bulgaria has made progress in poverty reduction and improving access to care for vulnerable children, supported by outreach and Roma mediators. The minimum income reform has strengthened the social assistance system. Affordability, accessibility and quality of social services have improved. However, further efforts are needed to address extreme poverty among Roma families, as 53% of Roma remain at risk of poverty or social exclusion[21] compared to 21.7% of the general population[22]. Roma communities also remain less effectively covered by social and employment services, indicating a need for more proactive and targeted support to ensure inclusive and equitable access.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Bulgaria did not report on this objective.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note that between 2023 and 2025, Roma and pro-Roma NGOs participated actively in Monitoring Committees of key national ESF+ co-financed programmes, influencing decisions and coordinating targeted Roma initiatives. The Civil Society Council was re-established in 2025, and EU and international funding channels supported NGO activities effectively. However, challenges remain, including: (i) limited Roma input in national bodies; (ii) financial and administrative barriers to EU-funded projects; and (iii) lack of state budget support for civil society capacity building. Improvements are needed to ensure meaningful Roma participation in decision-making, expand partnerships with ministries, and strengthen institutional support for NGOs.

ASSESSMENT: Bulgaria has increased Roma participation and supported CSO activities through EU and international funding. However, challenges remain, including: (i) limited Roma input in national, regional and local decision-making bodies; (ii) financial barriers to accessing EU funds; and (iii) insufficient state support for civil society capacity building. The NRCP is also widely perceived as ineffective and in need of reform. Positive results from targeted funding, such as the Norway Grants and ESF+, highlight the importance of continued support under EU programmes' for strengthening Roma and pro-Roma CSOs. Addressing these gaps is essential for meaningful Roma participation in policymaking and stronger NGO engagement, while ensuring tailored approaches to address the vulnerabilities of Roma communities.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

[21]European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights – Roma Survey 2024, availale at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/2025/roma-survey-2024.
[22]Available at Eurostat, (online data code ilc_li02), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_li02__custom_22314605/default/table .

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Bulgaria has taken steps to improve educational inclusion for Roma and other vulnerable groups, focusing on increasing pre-school and school participation, preventing early school leaving and strengthening support systems. Reintegration efforts have returned thousands of children to school and expanded enrolment of previously unenrolled children. Additional Bulgarian language support and personal development programmes help students succeed in mainstream education. Bulgaria has also expanded the use of educational mediators, improving communication with Roma families and supporting attendance. Desegregation measures, including transport and learning materials, have been introduced in several municipalities. Teacher training and intercultural education activities have also expanded to promote inclusion and improve outcomes for disadvantaged students.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report progress in educational inclusion through increased state support for educational mediators, assistants and social workers, alongside expanded access to free early childhood education and care, and secondary education support. CSOs also note positive developments in reducing early school leaving. However, they stress that school segregation remains a major concern, affecting both general and vocational education. According to CSOs, addressing this challenge requires stronger legislative and policy measures promoting desegregation and inclusive schooling. They also highlight the need for enhanced intercultural education, language support, improved access to higher education, and stronger involvement of NGOs in education policy implementation and monitoring.

ASSESSMENT: Bulgaria has taken an important institutional step by transferring funding for educational mediators and social workers to the state budget, providing a more sustainable basis for community outreach. However, this progress is accompanied by persistently low educational outcomes and continuously rising school segregation. Only around 42% of young Roma complete upper secondary education, compared to 90% of the general population, while 70% of Roma children attend schools where most or all pupils are Roma[23]. To address remaining gaps towards the 2030 objectives, Bulgaria is encouraged to complement project-based approaches with more structural measures to tackle segregation. Improving the availability of disaggregated data could support better assessment of inclusiveness.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: Bulgaria reported that employment measures aim to improve Roma labour market participation mainly through mainstream measures, mediation and training. During the reporting period, between June 2023 and March 2025, 29 975 unemployed persons self-identifying as Roma were employed, largely through Labour Office mediation and increased employer demand. Roma labour mediators play a key role in activating inactive jobseekers, with 15 726 Roma activated. Training and guidance activities, including vocational training and job-search workshops, were also implemented. However, over 90% of registered unemployed Roma are unqualified and around 60% have only primary or lower education, which remains the main barrier to sustainable employment. Monitoring is constrained due to the lack of ethnicity-disaggregated labour market data.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs confirm a positive trend in Roma employment in Bulgaria, supported by post-Covid recovery and subsidised programmes. The public sector Roma mediator network had expanded to over 400 members by the end of 2024, strengthening links between communities and institutions, with NGOs contributing to mediator selection, training and support, and some municipalities co-financing costs. Despite progress, structural reforms are needed. Employment programmes should diversify opportunities, expand vocational training and skills validation, and target stable, higher-qualified jobs. Participation of Roma women and youth should be increased through flexible work, incentives and services such as childcare and transport, alongside integrated programmes, stronger Roma involvement and improved transparency.

ASSESSMENT: Recent employment measures, including labour mediation, vocational training and increased numbers of Roma mediators, have contributed to improving Roma labour market participation. The 2024 amendment to the Employment Promotion Act also provides a stronger basis for improving access to employment services. However, significant structural challenges remain, particularly linked to low educational attainment and qualifications. Around

[23] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code edat_lfse_03), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/edat_lfse_03__custom_22314661/default/table.

46% of Roma youth are estimated to be neither in employment, education nor training (NEET), compared with approximately 11%[24] of the general population[25]. Moving forward, further efforts will be needed to: (i) expand skills development aligned with labour market needs; (ii) diversify employment opportunities; and (iii) improve access for Roma women and youth through integrated and targeted support measures.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Bulgaria reported that health policies focus on improving access to healthcare and preventive services for Roma and other vulnerable communities mainly through mainstream public health measures. A key component is the health mediator system, with 332 mediators working in municipalities in 2024 to facilitate communication between Roma communities and health services. Mediators provided over 160 000 consultations and supported access to preventive examinations, immunisations and medical services. Mobile medical units conducted gynaecological, paediatric and screening examinations in underserved areas. Public health campaigns addressed HIV, tuberculosis and vaccination awareness. However, improving health outcomes remains challenging due to low health awareness among Roma communities and persistent barriers to accessing healthcare services.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report progress in Roma health inclusion, including more Roma healthcare professionals and medical students, with over 90 young people supported through mentoring (2023-2025). The health mediator network remains central, with over 320 mediators nationwide, some employed by hospitals and trained in maternity care and paediatrics. Amendments to Ordinance 26 expanded maternity care for uninsured women and guarantee newborn screening. However, inequalities and access barriers persist. Further measures should: (i) cover health insurance for vulnerable Roma; (ii) expand mediator roles; (iii) integrate health and social services; (iv) train medical staff to address discrimination; (v) incentivise work in underserved areas; (vi) ensure sustainable funding; and (vii) strengthen Roma participation.

ASSESSMENT: To support progress towards health equity, Bulgaria could consider strengthening preventive and outpatient care, including in underserved areas. Addressing gaps in health insurance coverage through targeted measures for vulnerable groups may also be useful. Continued efforts to ensure accessible and effective complaint mechanisms could contribute to addressing discrimination in healthcare settings. Improving the availability of reliable and appropriately disaggregated health data, in line with data protection standards and in cooperation with Roma civil society organisations, may support evaluation of health interventions and inform policies aimed at reducing disparities in health outcomes and improving overall system responsiveness and inclusiveness.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Bulgaria reported that measures to improve access to adequate and desegregated housing are mainly implemented through mainstream regional development and urban infrastructure programmes, notably Integrated Territorial Investments led by the Ministry of Regional Development and municipalities. Under the 'Regions in Growth' operational programme, four housing rehabilitation projects improved 106 homes owned by marginalised groups, including Roma, benefiting 191 people. Social housing construction also progressed, with 780 units built against a target of 642, improving conditions for 1 503 people. Additionally, 17 projects upgrading social infrastructure are expected to benefit over 42 000 people. Despite these efforts, disparities remain, with 67.5% of Roma living in overcrowded housing in 2024, compared with 33.8%[26] overall.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note that Bulgaria has taken steps to improve access to rights and services for Roma, including introducing a 'service address' for those unable to prove residence, enabling applications for municipal housing without permanent registration, and linking reforms to ECtHR rulings through action plans. However, implementation gaps remain, with uneven application by municipalities. Clear obligations and guidance are needed to operationalise the service-address reform. Housing legislation should better protect the right to housing and prevent evictions without alternatives. Bulgaria should also develop a comprehensive desegregated housing policy

[24] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code edat_lfse_20), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/edat_lfse_20__custom_22314486/default/table.
[25] See previous footnote.
[26] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code ilc_lvho05a), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_lvho05a/default/table?lang=en .

addressing informal settlements and ensuring access to basic services.

ASSESSMENT: Recent investments in social housing, housing rehabilitation and social infrastructure provide a stronger basis for improving housing conditions for vulnerable groups, including Roma communities. The 2024 amendment to the Civil Registration Act introducing an 'service' or 'official address' is also a positive step towards improving access to housing rights and services. However, significant disparities persist, with 79% of Roma living in overcrowded housing compared with 34% of the general population[27]. Moving forward, further efforts will be needed to: (i) ensure consistent implementation at municipal level; (ii) strengthen safeguards against evictions without adequate alternatives; and (iii) develop more comprehensive desegregated housing policies addressing informal settlements, access to basic services and long-term housing inclusion.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRCP has strengthened coordination and methodological support for regional and municipal authorities in implementing the NRSF. It issued guidelines requiring inclusive participation of Roma communities, civil society and institutions in developing regional strategies and municipal plans for 2024-2027. Despite the T.E.A.M.3 National Roma Platform not being operational for a time, cooperation between institutions, local authorities and Roma stakeholders continued, supporting participatory planning and monitoring. Regional and local councils on ethnic and integration issues remain operational, with designated experts liaising with the NRCP and reporting annually. The National Council for Cooperation on Ethnic and Integration Issues (NCCEII) resumed dialogue in 2024, while Roma civil society engaged in national and EU platforms. The Commission for Protection against Discrimination continued joint awareness activities and promotion of its certification scheme.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs reported that the partial reform of the National Roma Contact Point initially excluded Roma and pro-Roma organisations, and the proposed new unit lacked a reference to ethnic policies until several Roma NGOs intervened to change its name. They noted that the new National Action Plan was drafted without targeted consultation and that Roma organisations remain excluded from monitoring the national framework, participating instead mainly through the Roma Civil Monitoring (RCM) coalition. Civil society also pointed out that Roma NGOs left the NCCEII due to structural issues, stressing that meaningful partnership will require deeper institutional reform.

ASSESSMENT: In order to make progress, Bulgaria is encouraged to ensure Roma and pro-Roma organisations are actively included in the reform of the NRCP and have a significant role in the monitoring of the NRSF. Engaging Roma organisations in drafting the National Action Plan through targeted consultations can ensure their perspectives are included. Addressing structural issues within the NCCEII will foster meaningful partnerships and strengthen institutional reform.

FUNDING

Bulgaria's Roma inclusion measures are financed through national, EU and international sources, although most programmes are mainstream and do not report Roma-specific expenditure. Targeted funding includes EUR 1.34 million for combating antigypsyism and discrimination and over EUR 43 million from ESF+ for inclusive education of vulnerable groups. Mainstream education measures earmarked EUR 71.6 million from ESF+, while EUR 79 million has been allocated for targeted social inclusion and labour market integration of vulnerable groups, including Roma. Health-related actions received EUR 230 081 from national and international funding. Under the 2014-2020 'Regions in Growth' operational programme and the 2021–2027 'Development of Regions' (ERDF) programme, eligible activities include social and health infrastructure, affordable housing, education infrastructure and neighbourhood renovation. However, no mandatory requirements, evaluation bonuses or resource set-asides are in place to support Roma inclusion.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The NRSF for Bulgaria sets quantitative targets for all objectives except participation and qualitative targets for all EU-level objectives. It also includes indicators to monitor implementation across all EU-level objectives, with the

[27]Available at: Eurostat, (online data code ilc_lvho05a), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_lvho05a/default/table?lang=en.

exception of participation. These indicators cover the majority of the EU-level headline indicators, and the NRSF sets targets to be achieved by 2030 for each of them.

In addition, the country has put in place a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the NRSF, with monitoring reports produced on an annual basis. Roma and pro-Roma CSOs are involved in monitoring the implementation of the framework.

PROMISING PRACTICES

The Food and Basic Material Support Programme is a key measure aimed at reducing poverty and supporting vulnerable families, including Roma. It combines two main interventions: (i) providing nutritional support for children aged 10 months to 3 years through meal vouchers distributed via children's centres; and (ii) distributing basic material packages for newborns. By the end of 2025, around 5 000 children and 5 000 families are expected to benefit, while by the end of 2024, 883 children had already received support. The programme contributes to improving early childhood conditions, strengthening parental capacity, and facilitating access to social services, thereby supporting longer-term social inclusion.

The educational mediators scheme. Educational mediators serve as a bridge between schools and vulnerable communities. The number of mediators was increased thanks to the Ministry of Education and systemic ESF-funded projects ('Support for Success' and 'Active Inclusion'). In July 2023, changes in the Financing Decree secured EUR 5 million annually from the state budget for 1 260 educational mediators, teaching assistants, and social workers in schools with vulnerable students. Mediators were officially added to school staff roles (Dec. 2023), gaining equal rights, and training opportunities were approved (Aug. 2024). This marks a successful transition of a good practice from ESF to permanent national funding.

Roma labour mediators are a central component of Bulgaria's employment approach, working within public employment services to activate and support Roma jobseekers. Their role includes outreach in communities, motivation of inactive individuals, and facilitation of registration with Labour Offices. Between June 2023 and March 2025, 15 726 Roma were activated through mediator's work, and mediators also engaged employers, including holding 1 707 meetings in 2024. They are funded through the state budget under the 'Activation of inactive persons' national programme with EUR 731 767 allocated in 2024 to cover their salaries. This model represents a structured, state-funded mechanism linking community outreach with mainstream employment services.

Table 3 - Czechia

Czechia	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	National Strategy for Equality, Inclusion and Participation of Roma (Roma Integration Strategy) 2021–2030[28]
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	Council of Europe estimates: approximately 250 000 Roma in Czechia (1.91% of the population).[29] In the 2021 census 21 691 self-declared as Roma[30].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Office of the Government Council for Roma Minority Affairs
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP operates with a budget of CZK 9 million (EUR 360 000) for 2023-2025, financed entirely from the national budget. Four employees are responsible for coordinating and monitoring the NRSF, managing six committees and working groups, and the Government Council for Roma Minority Affairs. The NRCP also administers three grant programmes, cooperates with international institutions, and supports the Government Commissioner for Roma Minority Affairs. It contributes to mainstreaming Roma inclusion by taking part in programming and monitoring for EU funds, and by commenting on calls under the Johannes Amos Comenius[31] and Employment Plus[32] programmes. The NRCP has reported challenges related to limited human resources. As of July 2026, the Office operates under the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: A key achievement was the adoption of the definition of antigypsyism by the Government of the Czech Republic and the Senate, fulfilling an important objective to reduce antigypsyism. This resulted from coordinated efforts by public authorities, advisory bodies, and civil society actors, who highlighted its alignment with national and international commitments and its value for awareness-raising. In addition, the Czech Republic introduced a notable measure in April 2025 by extending for five years the deadline for compensation claims related to illegal sterilisations. This was complemented by a dedicated subsidy programme supporting NGOs in assisting victims with applications and conducting outreach, thereby strengthening access to justice and improving public awareness. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs acknowledge some progress in recognising antigypsyism in CZ's national Roma strategy. However, implementation remains weak, in particular penalties for specific manifestations of antigypsyism are limited and often dependent on a broader interpretation of existing legal provisions. Insufficient funding for Roma civil society further restricts effective monitoring and responses to antigypsyism. **ASSESSMENT:** Czechia is encouraged to build on the formal recognition of antigypsyism by translating the adopted definition into more systematic implementation across public policies, awareness-raising activities and institutional practices. Going forward, strengthening the effective enforcement of anti-discrimination and hate crime legislation, alongside improving monitoring and reporting mechanisms, could support a more consistent response to manifestations	

[28] CZ National Strategy for equality, inclusion and participation: https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/abfe2680-8b7f-48e1-a93c-2d639cc3f109_en?filename=strategie-2021-2030_final.pdf.
[29] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[30] According to the 2022 governmental *Report on the State of the Roma Minority*. Available at: https://vlada.gov.cz/cz/ppov/zalezitosti-romske-komunity/aktuality/zprava-o-stavu-romske-mensiny-v-ceske-republice-za-rok-2022-212008/.
[31] Available at: https://opjak.cz/.
[32] Available at: https://www.dotaceeu.cz/en/evropske-fondy-v-cr/kohezni-politika-po-roce-2020/programy/programy2021_2027/op-zamestnanost.

of antigypsyism. Ensuring sustainable support for Roma and pro-Roma civil society organisations may further enhance community outreach, advocacy and victim support. Continued efforts to facilitate access to the sterilisation compensation scheme, including through accessible procedures and targeted outreach, could also help ensure effective access to justice for affected women

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Czechia did not report on this objective.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report progress through the Employment+ programme, which funds social inclusion projects involving Roma CSOs, and through the Social Inclusion Strategy (2021–2030)[33]. However, the socio-economic situation of Roma has worsened due to inflation, rising costs, and the energy crisis, deepening poverty and exclusion. The housing crisis and debt trap remain critical, aggravated by discrimination and the lack of an affordable housing strategy. CSOs also highlight limited funding, weak implementation, and the failure to scale effective practices, while an ethnically blind approach continues to hinder targeted support for Roma.

ASSESSMENT: Czechia is encouraged to strengthen the implementation of its NRSF by placing greater focus on reducing persistent poverty and social exclusion affecting Roma communities. Despite existing inclusion measures, Roma remain disproportionately affected by poverty, labour-market exclusion and inadequate housing conditions. Poverty is widespread, with 52% of Roma at risk compared with 9.5% of the general population[34]. Severe material deprivation affects about a quarter of Roma households, although this has improved since 2016[35]. Going forward, Czechia could prioritise measures addressing over-indebtedness, access to debt relief and affordable housing, while ensuring stable funding, regular evaluation and wider scaling-up of effective inclusion practices. Strengthening targeted support mechanisms may also help address the disproportionate impact of rising living costs on Roma households.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Czechia seeks to strengthen Roma participation in decision-making by ensuring that they are represented in advisory and consultative bodies across key ministries, including health, education, and labour. It also supports Roma involvement in the working bodies of EU operational programmes for 2021–2027, with one to two representatives in each, contributing to the design and monitoring of social inclusion policies. In terms of progress, authorities continued grant programmes in 2024 focused on community work and organising, aimed at enhancing civic competences, particularly in socially excluded localities. Additionally, a new subsidy programme was introduced to support NGOs assisting victims of illegal sterilisation and raising awareness, contributing to both individual support and broader community empowerment.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Progress in capacity building is noted, with the Employment+ programme funding around 40 Roma projects and the ROVA initiative[36] under the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV) supporting Roma NGOs. However, short-term funding, limited institutional support, and understaffing in public bodies continue to hinder long-term planning and meaningful Roma participation in policymaking.

ASSESSMENT: Czechia is encouraged to build on existing participation mechanisms by strengthening the long-term institutional capacity of bodies responsible for Roma inclusion, particularly within the Government Office and the Office of the Commissioner for Roma Minority Affairs and ensuring more sustainable support for Roma civil society organisations. Going forward, stable and predictable funding could help Roma NGOs move beyond short-term project-based activities and participate more consistently in policymaking, implementation and monitoring processes. Further efforts to reinforce the role of Roma representatives in advisory bodies and EU operational programme structures may support more meaningful participation in decision-making across sectors. Strengthening coordination between public authorities and Roma civil society could also contribute to more effective and inclusive policy design at national and local levels.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

[33] Available at: https://natlex.ilo.org/dyn/natlex2/natlex2/files/download/116675/CZE-116675%20(EN).pdf .
[34] Available at: Eurostat dataset ilc_li02, https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ILC_LI02/default/table?lang=en.
[35] Available at: https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2025-roma-survey-2024_en.pdf.
[36] Available at: https://ergonetwork.org/project/rova/.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION
REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRCP in cooperation with the Office for Personal Data Protection and relevant ministries, has developed a standardised methodology for collecting ethnicity-based data on Roma children and youth. This initiative aims to improve the reliability of data used to monitor and address educational segregation, in line with national legislation and European Court of Human Rights requirements. A further significant development is the inclusion of Roma history and culture in the revised elementary school curriculum. This was achieved through the active involvement of Roma representatives and experts, including members of advisory bodies and civil society, who contributed to the Ministry of Education's revision process and supported the integration of this content. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY**: Progress has been made through targeted education measures, including: (i) a specific call for Roma CSOs under the 2024 Johannes Amos Comenius programme; (ii) support for disadvantaged schools under the National Recovery Plan; and (iii) new methodologies to combat segregation developed by the Ministry of Education, the National Pedagogical Institute, and PAQ Research. The creation of a Children's Ombudsperson is also seen as a positive step forward. However, segregation of Roma pupils remains widespread and low educational attainment persist among Roma adults. Civil society highlights the need for stronger desegregation measures, better data collection, and impact evaluation to assess the real outcomes of education policies for Roma. **ASSESSMENT**: Recent initiatives, including the development of a standardised methodology for ethnicity-based data collection and the inclusion of Roma history and culture in the revised curriculum, provide a stronger basis for addressing educational inequalities and segregation in the future. The involvement of Roma representatives and civil society in these processes is a positive step towards more inclusive policymaking. However, major challenges remain. Participation of Roma children in early childhood education and care (ECEC) remains low, at 48% in 2024 compared with 85%[37] among the general population. School segregation also persists, with 58% of Roma children aged 5–16 attending schools where most classmates are Roma[38], while around one third follow a reduced curriculum[39]. Further efforts are also needed to support upper secondary completion, strengthen desegregation approaches and promote equal educational opportunities for Roma pupils.
INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT
REPORTED PROGRESS: The main achievement is the creation of opportunities to complete qualifications within active employment policy programmes, which should also support Roma employability. The measures under these programmes include support for first work experience, job placements, apprenticeships, and career development. The Law on Integration Social Enterprises[40] has been proposed to support the employment of vulnerable groups. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs recognise progress in promoting employment and social entrepreneurship, notably the new legislation on social enterprises and Ministry of Labour 'integration jobs'[41], which combine wage subsidies for target groups and individual social work for new employees. However, labour market discrimination, limited targeting of Roma, and the inability to collect ethnic data hinder effective policy evaluation. CSOs call for better-targeted measures, including Roma counsellors, employer incentives, and stronger support for social enterprises. They also highlight the need to address debt traps, low skills, and weak project sustainability. **ASSESSMENT**: Czechia is encouraged to build on recent labour-market initiatives, including the proposed Law on Integration Social Enterprises and integration job schemes, to further strengthen the labour-market inclusion of Roma. Despite ongoing efforts, Roma continue to face significant employment disparities, with an employment rate of around 55% in 2024 compared with 82.3%[42] among the general population[43]. Over 300 segregated localities where Roma

[37] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code educ_uoe_enra21), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/educ_uoe_enra21/default/table?lang=en.
[38] Ibid.
[39] Available at: https://edu.gov.cz/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Final_Vyzkumna_zprava_%C2%A7_16_9_MSMT_PAQ_STEM.pdf
[40] Available at: https://ceske-socialni-podnikani.cz/zakon-o-isp/pravni-predpisy.
[41] Available at: https://www.mpsv.cz/pilotni-overeni-integracniho-pracovniho-mista.
[42] Available at : Eurostat, (online data code lfsi_emp_a), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/lfsi_emp_a__custom_22320967/default/table.
[43] Ibid.

represent majority of the population have a 90-100% unemployment rate[44]. Going forward, further attention could be given to scaling up targeted support measures, including skills development, counselling and pathways to stable employment, particularly in socially excluded localities with very high unemployment. Strengthening support for social enterprises, improving the sustainability of employment programmes and enhancing monitoring and evaluation mechanisms may also contribute to more effective and inclusive labour-market policies.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Czechia continued to operate the regional health support centres and health support mediators through the EU-funded 'Effective Health Support' project, which has enhanced healthcare accessibility at the regional level. These initiatives focus on improving health literacy and navigating the healthcare system for marginalised communities. However, retaining staff and transitioning to systemic national financing after the conclusion of EU project cycles remains a critical challenge for the long-term sustainability of these services.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs characterise existing health measures as insufficient relative to the scale of disparities and report that systemic bias and antigypsyism in healthcare settings continue to undermine trust. They highlight those significant barriers - including out-of-pocket expenses, co-payments, and the limited availability of primary care in disadvantaged regions - continue to obstruct equal access. Furthermore, CSOs call for the collection of ethnically disaggregated data to make health inequalities statistically visible and to allow for evidence-based policy evaluation.

ASSESSMENT: While significant investments in healthcare infrastructure have been made through ERDF and ESF+ support to improve primary, psychiatric, and urgent care, the specific impact on Roma communities remains unclear due to the lack of disaggregated data and limited targeting of marginalised groups. Roma continue to face barriers in accessing healthcare, including discrimination and reduced service availability in remote or disadvantaged areas. To address these gaps and reduce persistent inequalities, such as the life expectancy gap, Czechia is encouraged to: (i) strengthen the enforcement of anti-discrimination rules; (ii) institutionalise the health mediator model through stable national funding; and (iii) invest in culturally sensitive services.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The primary achievement is the 2025 approval of the Housing Support Act[45].This legislation establishes systemic support for those in housing need, specifically addressing ethnic discrimination against Roma. It introduces essential tools like housing advice, assistance services, and a rental guarantee system to de-risk private market participation for landlords. This milestone resulted from effective coordination between the Ministry of Regional Development and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, ensuring targeted support for vulnerable groups. By transitioning from temporary projects to a permanent legal framework, the Act provides a sustainable foundation for equal housing access and incorporates mechanisms to track outcomes for the Roma community.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note progress through updated housing subsidy rules and the 2025 Housing Support Act recognising discrimination as a vulnerability. They also noted that Roma are still facing severe housing poverty, limited access to municipal housing and insufficient state support for municipalities.

ASSESSMENT: Czechia is encouraged to build on the 2025 Housing Support Act by ensuring effective implementation, adequate funding and measurable impact for Roma communities. Despite the new legal framework, major disparities persist: in 2024, 81% of Roma lived in overcrowded housing compared with 17%[46] of the general population[47], while home ownership among Roma remained extremely low. Roma also continue to face high risks of eviction, housing insecurity and discrimination in access to municipal and private housing. Going forward, Czechia should: (i) strengthen municipal capacities; (ii) ensure sufficient financial support; (iii) improve monitoring of outcomes for Roma; and (iv) reinforce anti-discrimination and anti-segregation measures to achieve sustainable equal access to housing.

[44] Available at: https://ergonetwork.org/2024/11/research-report-on-roma-access-to-decent-and-sustainable-employment/.
[45] Available at: https://socialnibydleni.mpsv.cz/mitdomov.
[46] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code ilc_lvho05a), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_lvho05a/default/table?lang=en.
[47] Available at: https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2025-roma-survey-2024_en.pdf.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRCP facilitates the involvement of Roma and pro-Roma civil society, regional and local authorities, and other stakeholders in the design, implementation, monitoring, and review of the National Roma Strategic Framework (NRSF). Representatives of these actors, including Roma NGOs, are members of the Government Council for Roma Minority Affairs and its committees and working groups, where they provide input, most recently during the 2024 NRSF revision. The NRCP also ensures they take part in working bodies for EU funds and provides methodological support to regional coordinators and Roma advisers. However, the National Roma Platform has not been established, and there is no formal cooperation between central and local authorities in the design or implementation of EU-funded programmes.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs participated in the review of the NRSF in 2024 via Roma representatives on the Government Council for Roma Minority Affairs and RomanoNet. However, final decisions remained with ministries. Roma CSOs complement official monitoring through their own reporting and advocacy. The Council and the Commissioner for Roma Minority Affairs provide key dialogue platforms.

ASSESSMENT: Czechia is encouraged to build on existing consultation structures by further strengthening the institutional participation of Roma civil society and local stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of the NRSF. Going forward, establishing the National Roma Platform could support more structured cooperation between central, regional and local authorities, particularly in the design and implementation of EU-funded programmes. Further efforts to enhance the role of Roma CSOs in monitoring, advocacy and policy evaluation may contribute to more inclusive and evidence-based policymaking. Strengthening coordination mechanisms and ensuring meaningful stakeholder participation throughout all stages of programme implementation could also support more effective responses to antigypsyism, discrimination and social exclusion.

FUNDING

Roma inclusion measures in Czechia are financed through a combination of national, EU and international funding. However, most objectives do not report dedicated budgets, as Roma-specific spending cannot be reliably disaggregated from mainstream measures. The most clearly identifiable funding concerns participation, with EUR 9.48 million from national, EU and international sources, including the Employment Plus programme, the Johannes Amos Comenius programme, and EEA and Norway Grants. Additional support is provided through specific objectives promoting the socio-economic integration of marginalised communities, with EUR112 million allocated under the operational programme JAC and EUR 38 million under the operational programme Employment Plus. The Integrated Regional Programme further supports social inclusion through ERDF funding of EUR 1.3 billion. Although not specifically targeted, these measures include Roma among their beneficiaries and contribute to improving their living conditions.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The NRSF sets quantitative targets for all objectives except Objective 2 (Poverty and social exclusion) and Objective 3 (Participation). It does not set any qualitative targets. It also includes indicators for monitoring implementation in all EU-level objectives except Objective 2 (Poverty and social exclusion). These indicators include many of the EU-level headline indicators. The country also sets targets to achieve by 2030 for all these indicators. It has set up a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the NRSF with monitoring reports produced on annual basis. Roma or pro-Roma CSOs are involved in monitoring the implementation of the NRSF.

PROMISING PRACTICES

A subsidy programme launched in 2024 by the Office of the Government Department for Human Rights and Protection of Minorities supports NGOs assisting victims of illegal sterilisation[48]. The programme enables CSOs to help applicants prepare and submit compensation claims under the 2022 Law on the Provision of a Lump Sum to Persons Sterilised in Violation of the Law, and to conduct information and awareness-raising campaigns on the issue. This funding mechanism has proven to be an innovative and responsive solution to fill a gap in financial support for NGOs providing direct assistance to victims.

The Johannes Amos Comenius programme supports measures to improve educational outcomes for disadvantaged pupils, including Roma children. The programme includes support for Roma civil society organisations working with disadvantaged pupils and students. In addition, targeted support was provided to disadvantaged schools under the National Recovery Plan, including methodological and financial assistance to improve educational quality in schools serving socially disadvantaged communities[49].

[48] Ibid.
[49] Available at: https://opjak.cz/.

Table 4 - Denmark

Denmark	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	Denmark does not have a standalone NRSF. Policies affecting Roma are incorporated within a broader set of policy measures aimed at social inclusion.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	2 500 according to Council of Europe (CoE) estimates[50].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Agency for Immigration and Integration (SIRI) under the Ministry of Immigration and Integration.
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP reported that Denmark does not have integration policies tailored to specific ethnic groups, nor do the authorities collect data disaggregated by ethnicity, as they avoid registering residents' ethnicity. Instead, all individuals, including Roma, have equal access to services provided by the universal welfare state – such as integration measures, childcare, education, healthcare, and employment – funded mostly through general taxation. The NRCP has a budget of EUR 30 000 for 2023-2025, with one person listed as an employee.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Denmark did not report any specific achievement. Measures to prevent discrimination, including against Roma, are addressed through the mainstream equality and anti-discrimination framework rather than Roma-specific policies **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs reported that progress in combating antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma remains limited with no concrete measures, targets, funding or monitoring. Instead, there is a reliance mainly on general anti-discrimination laws and universal welfare policies. CSOs also highlighted persistent antigypsyist stereotypes in public and political discourse and observed that criticism from bodies such as the Council of Europe and the Danish Institute for Human Rights has not yet led to significant policy changes. **ASSESSMENT:** In Denmark, antigypsyism is addressed mainly through general anti-discrimination and equality frameworks. No specific measures targeting Roma were reported.	
REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Denmark did not report any specific achievement. Poverty and social exclusion are addressed through the universal welfare system and mainstream social policies rather than through Roma-specific measures. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY**: CSOs report that Denmark relies mainly on its universal welfare system to address poverty and social exclusion, providing formal access to healthcare, education and social benefits. However, this mainstream approach does not adequately address the specific barriers faced by Roma. In particular, intra-EU migrant Roma - often from Romania and other Central and Eastern European countries - face homelessness, precarious work and exclusion from the labour market, while administrative requirements such as obtaining a national registration number limit their access to social assistance and housing **ASSESSMENT:** In Denmark, poverty and social exclusion are addressed mainly through the universal welfare system	

[50] CoE estimates of Roma population: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.

and mainstream social policies. No specific measures targeting Roma were reported.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Denmark did not report any specific achievements. Participation is promoted through cooperation with civil society within the broader integration and social inclusion framework rather than through Roma-specific structures. Civil society organisations working with vulnerable groups and people with foreign backgrounds are supported through initiatives focused on volunteering, network-building and community activities, from which Roma may also benefit.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs noted that Roma participation remains limited. They highlighted the absence of structured mechanisms for involving Roma or pro-Roma organisations in policymaking, monitoring or evaluation of Roma-related initiatives. According to CSOs, the reliance on general integration and equality frameworks means that Roma civil society is not systematically involved, and there are no dedicated platforms or funding schemes specifically supporting Roma participation.

ASSESSMENT: Participation in Denmark is mainly addressed through general civil society cooperation and broader integration policies. No specific mechanisms for Roma participation or structured involvement of Roma civil society organisations were reported.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Denmark did not report any specific achievement. Access to education is ensured through the mainstream education system.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs reported that Roma in Denmark have formal access to education through the general public education system but no specific measures addressing Roma pupils' needs or barriers to access. They noted that the situation of intra-EU migrant Roma, particularly those without a national registration (CPR) number, can limit their effective access to education and other services.

ASSESSMENT: Education in Denmark is addressed through the general education system, which provides equal access to free and compulsory schooling. No Roma-specific measures or monitoring mechanisms were reported.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: Denmark did not report any specific achievement. Employment support is provided through the mainstream active labour market policies rather than Roma-specific measures.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs noted that the national Roma strategic framework in Denmark does not include specific measures targeting Roma employment and relies mainly on general labour market policies. While Roma formally have access to employment support services, CSOs indicated that some Roma, particularly intra-EU migrants, may face challenges in accessing stable employment and often rely on temporary or informal economic activities.

ASSESSMENT: Employment in Denmark is addressed mainly through general active labour market policies and services provided by municipal job centres. No Roma-specific employment measures were reported.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Denmark did not report any specific achievement. Access to healthcare and social services is ensured through the universal public health system.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs reported Roma in Denmark are formally covered by the universal healthcare system, but access in practice can be uneven. In particular, Roma without a registered address or national registration (CPR) number—often intra-EU migrants—may have only limited access to healthcare services, mainly restricted to emergency treatment.

ASSESSMENT: Healthcare and social services in Denmark are provided through the universal public welfare system. No Roma-specific measures or monitoring mechanisms were reported.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Denmark did not report any specific achievement. Access to housing and essential services is addressed through the mainstream social and housing policies.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs reported that Denmark does not have specific measures addressing Roma housing needs. They noted that while Roma with legal residence formally have access to social housing and support services, many intra-EU migrant Roma face homelessness and precarious living conditions, partly due to difficulties in accessing the registration number required for housing assistance.

ASSESSMENT: Housing in Denmark is addressed through general social and housing policies, including municipal homelessness support and access to the public housing sector. No Roma-specific measures or monitoring mechanisms were reported.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: Denmark did not report any specific achievement. There were no specific cooperation mechanisms with Roma or pro-Roma civil society organisations and no National Roma Platform in place. Regional and local authorities were not specifically involved in Roma-related policies, and the NRCP has no role in the programming or monitoring of EU funds related to Roma inclusion.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs reported that Roma participation in Denmark remains very limited with the absence of structured dialogue mechanisms. They highlighted that there are currently no active Roma civil society organisations supported to engage with public authorities. As a result, participation tends to occur on an ad hoc basis through individual initiatives rather than through institutionalised cooperation.

ASSESSMENT: Denmark reported no specific mechanisms for involving Roma civil society in the design, implementation or monitoring of the national Roma strategic framework. No dedicated dialogue structures, such as a National Roma Platform, or specific roles for regional or local authorities were reported.

PROMISING PRACTICES

Denmark did not report any specific promising practices.

Table 5 - Germany

Germany	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	In 2022, Germany adopted its National Roma Strategic Framework (NRSF), "Tackling Antigypsyism, Ensuring Participation"[51], which closely aligns with the EU Roma Strategic Framework 2021-2030.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates	Council of Europe estimates: approximately 105.000 Roma and Sinti live in Germany[52].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Federal Ministry for Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP is responsible for coordinating and monitoring the national Roma Strategy. It employs 5 people. Its annual budget of EUR 1 270 000 is earmarked specifically to supports the Antigypsyism Reporting and Information Centre (MIA)[53]. The NRCP facilitates interministerial cooperation through a working group meeting twice yearly, involving federal ministries and key agencies addressing anti-discrimination, migration, antigypsyism, minority affairs, and culture. The NRCP also holds an annual federal-state meeting on monitoring antigypsyism. It additionally sits on the advisory committee for the ESF+ programme known as EhAP Plus (Integration helps counter the exclusion of the most deprived), in a primarily consultative role.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: The Federal Government Commissioner against Antigypsyism has established key structures, including the Federal-State Commission to Combat Antigypsyism54 and the Sinti and Roma Forum (Bund-Länder-Kommission)[55] - a recurring nationwide exchange between state authorities, foundations, and Sinti and Roma organisations. The independent MIA systematically records and evaluates instances of antigypsyism, documenting 1.233 in 2023. The 'Live Democracy'56 federal programme raises awareness and empowers Sinti and Roma communities. A cooperative alliance against antigypsyism was founded in January 2025 under its third funding period (2025 - 2032). The adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA)57 working definition on antigypsyism in March 2021 further supports this work. The Federal Anti-Discrimination Agency (FADA)58 has initiated a participatory dialogue process to develop community-based demands for anti-discrimination surveys and data collection. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** Germany has taken steps to address antigypsyism, including a 2023 parliamentary resolution59 calling for 27 measures, the establishment of a Standing Commission of federal and	

[51] Available at: BMI - Homepage - 2022 - Tackling Antigypsyism, Ensuring Participation - National Strategic Framework to Implement the EU Roma Strategic Framework in Germany.
[52] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[53] Available at: https://www.antiziganismus-melden.de/en/.
[54] Available at: https://www.bmbfsfj.bund.de/bmbfsfj/staendige-bund-laender-kommission-gegen-antiziganismus-und-fuer-das-leben-der-sinti-und-roma-nimmt-arbeit-auf-250606.
[55] Available at: https://www.bmbfsfj.bund.de/bmbfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/michael-brand-sinti-und-roma-leisten-wertvollen-beitrag-fuer-unser-land-274176.
[56] Available at: https://www.demokratie-leben.de/en/.
[57] Available at: https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definitions-charters/working-definition-antigypsyism-romani-discrimination.
[58] Available at: https://www.antidiskriminierungsstelle.de/EN/.
[59] Available at: https://dserver.bundestag.de/btd/20/097/2009779.pdf.

regional authorities, and strengthened monitoring through the MIA. The Federal Anti-Discrimination Agency coordinated NGO consultations on data collection, while the Educational Forum Against Antigypsyism60 cooperates with the Federal Criminal Police on training. High-level participation in Roma Holocaust commemorations has increased awareness. However, antigypsyism remains widespread. The NRSF lacks targeted measures to address it, and many elements of the parliamentary resolution have not yet been implemented. Funding for the MIA has also been uncertain, with the 2025 budget initially proposing only EUR 25 000 before emergency funding was secured on a temporary basis.

ASSESSMENT: Germany could benefit from strengthening its efforts against antigypsyism by ensuring sustainable and predictable funding for key structures like the MIA. Implementing targeted measures within the NRSF, which currently lacks defined goals, indicators, and action plans — and addressing unfulfilled parliamentary demands will reinforce the progress made. The Federal-State Commission aims to foster a more effective and better coordinated policy for the protection and participation of Sinti and Roma across federal and regional levels. Enhancing sustainability and expanding the scope of existing initiatives, including those fostering dialogue and awareness, can further help combat widespread antigypsyism.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: The EhAP Plus ESF+ programme - (2021–2027) aims to improve the living conditions and social integration of particularly deprived newly arrived EU citizens and their children under the age of 18, as well as homeless people or people at risk of homelessness. It includes measures to raise awareness and train employees in public administrations on the issues of antigypsyism and anti-discrimination. The Federal Foreign Office supports various projects that raise awareness of the situation of Roma and could pave the wat for reducing poverty and exclusion. Germany continues to engage with the Berlin Process: building on the 2019 Poznan Declaration61, a ministerial meeting on Roma integration reaffirmed commitments to strengthen the socio-economic inclusion of Roma communities and address antigypsyism.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: No specific measures targeting the Sinti and Roma communities have been developed or implemented. For historical reasons, no ethnicity-based data are collected by the Federal State making it difficult to estimate the overall scale of the issue. Independent complain offices should be set up in public institutions. A reform of the General Equal Treatment Act (AGG)62 is necessary as complaints cannot currently be filed against anyone acting in an official capacity in the state sphere (except in Berlin). Institutional antigypsyism continues to be a blatant problem in unemployment offices, youth welfare offices, immigration authorities, municipal administrations and the education sector.

ASSESSMENT: Germany could set up mainstream efforts to combat exclusion and improve Roma living conditions by implementing targeted anti-poverty measures for Sinti and Roma. Establishing independent complaint bodies within public institutions and reforming the General Equal Treatment Act to address discrimination by state authorities would provide stronger safeguards. Furthermore, gathering ethnicity-based data, with community support, could help assess the scale of exclusion more accurately and shape effective interventions. The absence of a National Roma Platform and formal monitoring mechanisms for the NRSF represents a significant structural gap, compounded by the NRSF lack of specific anti-antigypsyism measures. In addition, of the 2023 parliamentary resolutions , 27 measures have not yet been implemented.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: The Federal Government Commissioner is assisted by an advisory body composed of 11 members, including 6 members of the Sinti/Roma minority. Communication between the national minority of German Sinti/Roma and federal policy makers/ the federal administration has been institutionalised through: (i) the Sinti and Roma Forum and the Federal-State Commission to Combat Antigypsyism, (ii) policy and press monitoring and (iii) an annual meeting of the Consultative Committee set up at the Federal Ministry of the Interior. A Romanes Academy is being established to further develop teaching materials for the Romani language, train lecturers, and develop digital language courses and further educational services. In March 2025, the Consultative Committee's new rules of

[60] Available at: https://dokuzentrum.sintiundroma.de/en/education/education-center-against-antiziganism/.
[61] Available at: https://www.rcc.int/docs/464/declaration-of-western-balkans-partners-on-roma-integration-within-the-eu-enlargement-process.
[62] Available at: https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_agg/englisch_agg.html.

procedure came into force, explicitly including minority youth in the list of members.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: In 2023 and 2024, the Federal Commissioner against Antigypsyism[63] hosted the "Sinti and Roma Forum", inviting Roma and pro-Roma NGOs, community representatives and political figures to discuss areas for improvement in the participation of communities. However, CSOs often face limited capacity and resources, which restricts their ability to effectively engage in policymaking and advocacy. They did not participate in the development of the NRSF and their expertise was not requested in policy development to any extent. While CSOs take part in the Advisory Committee and will have seats in the new Standing Commission, their influence remains limited, and they are still excluded from official data-collection processes.

ASSESSMENT: Germany could enhance its integration efforts by ensuring stable resources and capacity-building for Roma and Sinti CSOs to facilitate more meaningful engagement in policymaking. Involving these organisations in the design of the NRSF and other policies would strengthen collaboration. Expanding influence within the Advisory Committee and Standing Commission could strengthen the impact of CSOs.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Although not reported by Germany it is worth noting that in March 2025 the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (KMK) and the Central Council of German Sinti and Roma adopted a joint recommendation on tackling antigypsyism in schools[64]. It addresses prevention, intervention, and teacher training, and calls for a permanent KMK working group on antigypsyism to be set up.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight that Germany has taken steps to strengthen inclusive education for Sinti and Roma, including new recommendations on addressing antigypsyism in schools, expanding mediation programmes, and municipal initiatives to support discrimination reporting. However, the NRSF includes no reference to the structural, institutional and direct discrimination facing Sinti and Roma children, with 484 cases recorded in 2023 and 2024. Concerns also persist regarding school segregation, including the placement of some children in special schools without identified needs. In addition, children of recently arrived Roma may be disproportionately represented in classes where the quality of learning conditions may vary.

ASSESSMENT: Germany has made progress through the 2021 antigypsyism working definition and the 2025 KMK recommendation addressing the Holocaust and persecution of Sinti and Roma in the history curriculum. However, structural discrimination persists over 17% of recorded discriminatory incidents in 2023 occurred in educational settings, with school staff often implicated[65]. Germany could strengthen enforcement of anti-discrimination measures, mandate antigypsyism training for educators, and establish binding targets within the National Roma Strategic Framework. The absence of disaggregated data on Roma children's educational outcomes - including attainment and early school leaving rates - remains a critical gap, making progress difficult to measure and targets hard to monitor.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: Germany did not report on this objective.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report that Germany has taken limited steps to support Roma employment, including some initiatives under the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) for migrant Roma and municipal training by Sinti and Roma NGOs to prevent antigypsyism. These remain isolated examples and outside the NRSF framework. The NRSF lacks targeted measures for disadvantaged Sinti and Roma and does not address antigypsyism as a structural barrier to labour-market integration. CSOs point to challenges posed by administrative practices in employment offices, access to social services and the absence of low-threshold participation mechanisms, which may disproportionately affect Roma. A focus on persons with a migration or refugee background may not fully capture the situation of all Roma.

[63] Available at: https://www.bmbfsfj.bund.de/bmbfsfj/themen/antiziganismus.
[64] Available at: https://www.kmk.org/fileadmin/veroeffentlichungen_beschluesse/2025/2025_03_20-Empfehlung-Antiziganismus.pdf.
[65] Available at: https://www.antiziganismus-melden.de/en/2025/10/01/the-reporting-and-information-centre-on-antigypsyism-mia-publishes-its-3rd-annual-report-on-antigypsyist-incidents-in-germany/.

ASSESSMENT: Germany could further strengthen the employment dimension of the NRSF by developing more targeted measures addressing the specific situation of Sinti and Roma, including German Sinti and Roma who may not fall within migration- or refugee-related policy frameworks. Going forward, greater attention to antigypsyism as a structural barrier in employment and social services could support more inclusive and effective labour market policies. The development of more accessible employment and support services, alongside stronger outreach and institutional awareness, may help improve access to employment support. In addition, improving data collection and monitoring mechanisms could support better assessment of employment outcomes and facilitate the future development of more measurable objectives and targeted interventions.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Germany did not report on this objective.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: According to CSOs, the NRSF contains no targeted measures addressing the specific needs of Sinti and Roma communities. No ethnicity-based health data are available, limiting the assessment of disparities. Clearing Centres provide some support to uninsured individuals, including Roma, but fall outside the NRSF framework. Limited progress is reported in improving access to healthcare and social services for migrant Roma. Reports also point to instances of discrimination in the health sector affecting Sinti and Roma. EU Roma citizens without employment may face additional barriers, as access to statutory health insurance is linked to employment status, which can limit access to coverage.

ASSESSMENT: Germany has yet to develop targeted measures in health and healthcare for Sinti and Roma within the NRSF. Clearing Centres, while a relevant practice, remain outside the strategy's framework. Germany should establish low-threshold healthcare access mechanisms and address institutional antigypsyism in health services. With the formation of a new government in May 2025, it remains to be seen how the 'Tackling Antigypsyism - Ensuring Participation' national strategy will be further developed, particularly regarding measurable targets and indicators for monitoring progress.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Germany did not report on this objective.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report that housing remains a central issue for Sinti and Roma. No targeted measures have been implemented in recent years to address discrimination in housing. While some municipal discussions on improving conditions in certain settlements have progressed, reports indicate continued difficulties in accessing rental housing, including cases of explicit refusal based on Roma identity. EU mobile citizens and Roma refugees may experience accommodation in less favourable conditions, including in reception facilities located far from services. Disadvantaged Roma experiencing homelessness may face overcrowded or temporary housing situations. Overall, rising homelessness trends in Germany may further affect vulnerable groups, including Roma, and highlight the need for continued attention to housing inclusion.

ASSESSMENT: Germany's housing approach for Sinti and Roma is primarily based on mainstream policies without targeted measures. While intended to avoid stigmatisation, this approach may not fully address specific structural disadvantages. The NRSF does not include specific targets, objectives, or monitoring indicators for housing. Regional initiatives in cities such as Berlin provide local support; however, reports indicate ongoing challenges in accessing housing, including discrimination, administrative barriers, and affordability constraints. The government formed in May 2025 is encouraged to further develop measurable objectives and strengthen policy responses to improve housing inclusion outcomes.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY
REPORTED PROGRESS: Several Roma organisations co-designed the Berlin Participation Act, shaping the structure and role of the Roma and Sinti Advisory Body. Participation of Roma CSOs is enabled across several German Länder, where Roma and Sinti CSOs play an active role in shaping and implementing regional action plans and strategies. Across the country, 9 regional and 12 local action plans are in place. The NRCP cooperates with the FADA on issues related to equal treatment and non-discrimination of Sinti and Roma. The FADA is part of the interdepartmental exchange and is involved by the NRCP in all anti-discrimination matters. It also involves the NRCP in its own projects and strategies. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** No effective mechanisms have been established to ensure the meaningful involvement of Sinti and Roma in the implementation and monitoring of integration policies such as the NRSF. While CSOs take part in the Advisory Committee and will have seats in the new Standing Commission, their influence remains limited. Thanks to the Federal Commissioner against Antigypsyism the ability of CSOs to highlight their needs to the government has improved. Similarly, the strengthening of the NRCP has enabled organisations like the MIA to establish regular communications. The MIA works closely with several CSOs to provide data on antigypsyism incidents. However, CSOs are still excluded from official data-collection processes. **ASSESSMENT:** Germany has continued to strengthen participation structures for Roma and Sinti at federal and regional levels through cooperation with civil society, the strengthened role of the NRCP, and the work of the Federal Commissioner against Antigypsyism. Regional and local action plans, alongside new advisory and coordination bodies, provide a solid basis for further developing inclusive governance within the NRSF framework. Going forward, DE could build on these developments by further institutionalising the participation of Roma and Sinti organisations in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies affecting their communities. Additional opportunities may also exist to strengthen cooperation in data collection and to develop more structured and transparent consultation mechanisms at national level.
PROMISING PRACTICES
The MIA is unique in Europe, as a government-funded body tasked with monitoring, analysing and publishing antigypsyism incidents on an annual basis. It documented 621 incidents in 2022, 1.233 in 2023, and 1.678 in 2024[66] and produced a special report on antigypsyism against Ukrainian refugees. The Federal Commissioner against Antigypsyism has improved the way Sinti and Roma issues are addressed within the federal government, and the newly established Standing Commission has the potential for meaningful policy coordination. Despite precarious funding, Sinti and Roma NGOs remain active across Germany in grassroots organising, incident monitoring, education and community support. In the reporting period, the Documentation and Cultural Centre received funding from the 'Remembrance, Responsibility and Future' Foundation to conduct the project 'Forgotten Memory' project. A first exhibition was presented in Heidelberg in the summer of 2024.

[66] Available at: https://www.antiziganismus-melden.de/en/jahresberichte-von-mia-bund/.

Table 6 - Estonia

Estonia	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	Estonia does not have a specific National Roma Strategic Framework (NRSF); instead, it addresses EU requirements through its ten-year national integration strategy, 'Cohesive Estonia 2021–2030 67,' accompanied by the Integration Adaptation Programme 2022-2025[68]. This programme includes indicators focusing on Roma education and employment.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	Council of Europe estimates: approximately 1,050[69]. According to the 2021 census as of 1 January 2025, there are 690 Roma in Estonia.
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Ministry of Culture, Department of Cultural Diversity
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The 2023-2025 budget for the NRCP has been reported as EUR 1 214 684 and employs one person. The Estonian NRCP monitors and coordinates national policies for Roma equality, inclusion and participation together with the Roma Integration Council, which unites representatives of Roma CSOs, local municipalities and relevant ministries. It can contribute to the design and development of Roma policies, participates in dialogue with local municipalities and makes budget proposals. However, it is only consulted on the programming and monitoring of Union funds.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS MADE: Estonia integrates anti-racism and anti-discrimination measures within broader national strategies, including the *Wellbeing Development Plan 2023–2030*,[70] the *Cohesive Estonia 2030 plan, the Culture Development Plan 2021–2030*[71], *the Internal Security Development Plan 2030*[72], and the *Education Development Plan 2021–2035*[73]. These frameworks address equality, social cohesion, cultural diversity, and inclusion. Sectoral measures continue to support Roma through education, employment, social participation, and cultural activities. Awareness-raising initiatives, such as the "We are all the face of Estonia" 74 campaigns, have been undertaken to highlight cultural diversity and increase the visibility of Roma traditions and community events within Estonian society. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** Civil society reports that Estonia's initiatives mainly focus on cultural promotion. The *Integration Adaptation Programme 2022–2025*[75] lack specific measures to combat antigypsyism and discrimination, with no targeted actions against the systemic exclusion of Roma. Research on antigypsyism is limited, despite Roma concerns about negative stereotypes. The absence of discrimination indicators in the *Integration Programme* further limits data collection and policy responses. NGOs and international bodies have highlighted that the Penal Code's provisions on incitement to hatred do not effectively protect minorities, including Roma, from hate	

[67] Available at: https://www.kul.ee/sites/default/files/documents/2022-02/cohesive_estonia_strategy.pdf.
[68] Available at: https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2022-10/1_1_estonia_incl_adaptation_programme_2022_2025_1.pdf.
[69] CoE estimates of Roma population: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[70] Available at: https://www.sm.ee/heaolu-arengukava-2023-2030.
[71] Available at: https://www.kul.ee/en/culture2030.
[72] Available at: https://www.siseministeerium.ee/sites/default/files/documents/2025-01/Siseturvalisuse_arengukava_2020_2030_48lk_final_ENG.pdf .
[73] Available at: https://www.hm.ee/sites/default/files/documents/2022-10/haridusvaldkonna_arengukava_2035_kinnittaud_vv_eng_0%20(1).pdf .
[74] Available at: We are all the face of Estonia | Integratsiooni Sihtasutus.
[75] Available at: Estonia - European Commission.

speech or address hate crimes.

ASSESSMENT: Estonia has continued to support Roma inclusion through broader national strategies promoting equality, social cohesion, and cultural diversity. Educational, cultural, and social participation measures, alongside awareness-raising campaigns, have helped increase the visibility of Roma communities. Going forward, policy development could further strengthen the focus on discrimination and antigypsyism through enhanced monitoring tools, research, and dialogue with civil society. Improved data collection may also support more evidence-based and responsive policy approaches in future programming cycles.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS MADE: Efforts are being made to support local-level initiatives and foster cross-sector partnerships, focusing on mentoring services for Roma in socio-economically vulnerable situations. This also includes strengthening Roma civil society organisations. The Roma mentoring service in Valga provides individual counselling and practical assistance to families in navigating interactions with local authorities. In 2023, the Ministry of Culture launched an ESF+-supported initiative to enhance local government capacity for integration and adaptation services, with specific attention to Roma needs. Between 2017 and 2023, the Ministry of Culture implemented EU-funded projects to develop a national network supporting Roma integration.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report limited progress in reducing poverty and social exclusion among Roma communities, with no targeted national measures identified. The main initiative remains the mentoring service in Valga, which supports cooperation between Roma families, local authorities and institutions, while also providing humanitarian assistance. However, budget constraints have limited the expansion of these services to other municipalities. CSOs therefore stress the need to broaden mentoring services and establish dedicated funding for humanitarian aid to better address poverty and exclusion among Roma communities.

ASSESSMENT: Estonia has taken steps to support Roma inclusion through mentoring services, local government capacity-building, and cross-sector cooperation, with the Valga mentoring service representing a promising local practice. Going forward, expanding similar support mechanisms to other municipalities with Roma populations[76] could strengthen access to social support and local services. Continued investment in local partnerships, alongside more targeted measures addressing poverty and social exclusion, may further support the inclusion and wellbeing of Roma communities within future policy frameworks.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS MADE: Efforts to empower the Roma community in Estonia focus on increasing civic engagement and promoting Roma culture, language and history. The Platform for Roma Inclusion (ESTROM)[77] projects, funded by the EU's Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV), have been instrumental. In 2023, the Ministry of Culture completed the ESTROM 3 project, developing cooperation among integration stakeholders, Roma, local governments, and state institutions, including training for Roma women, youth and educators. The Roma Cultural Centre in Tallinn and the Roma Youth Centre in Valga have been established to support these objectives.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note that government reporting on the ESTROM 3 project focuses on activity summaries without assessing the impact of measures. Roma civil society organisations suffer from limited capacity and no human nor financial resources, which hinders them in policymaking and advocacy roles. CSOs highlight the need to ensure full participation of Roma NGOs in policy development, implementation, and monitoring. They also flag the risk of burnout among active members, calling for a dedicated strategy or civil society framework recognising Roma as a specific target group.

ASSESSMENT: Estonia has supported Roma empowerment through the ESTROM projects, training initiatives, and the establishment of Roma cultural and youth centres, strengthening cooperation between Roma communities and public institutions. Further efforts to support the capacity of Roma civil society organisations and their participation in policymaking could make these initiatives more sustainable and inclusive. More systematic evaluation of programme outcomes may also help future policy development.

[76] Tallinn, Ida-Virumaa and Tartu.
[77] Available at: https://www.eestiromad.ee/.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS MADE: The Integration Foundation, supported by the Ministries of Culture and of Education and Research, offers a mentoring service in Valga, where approximately a third of Estonia's Roma live, and assists students in completing compulsory schooling. The initiative, led by two Roma mentors from 2023 to 2025, provides educational support to Roma children and youth, facilitates cooperation with parents and schools, and offers additional learning support. In 2023, a Roma Youth Centre was opened in Valga, integrated with the mentoring service. The school attendance of young Roma students participating in the work of the Valga Roma Youth Centre has improved.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note the absence of new nationwide Roma-specific initiatives, while local efforts continue, such as the Valga mentorship service and Roma Youth Centre. National educational reforms that could benefit Roma children include mandatory native language and cultural education upon parental request, the transition to Estonian-language education, and compulsory schooling until age 18 from September 2025. However, low kindergarten attendance, insufficient data on school attendance, and the challenges posed by the language transition for Roma children with limited Estonian skills remain concerns requiring targeted support.

ASSESSMENT: Valga mentorship programme and Roma Youth Centre have contributed to improving school attendance and support for Roma children and youth at local level. Continued attention to increasing the participation in early childhood education and care, school attendance data, and language support during the transition to Estonian-language education may further strengthen secondary education attainment and equitable educational outcomes for Roma students.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS MADE: The Integration Foundation has initiated the Roma employment project, launched in March 2025 and funded by ESF+ until December 2027. The project targets Roma women and men aged 18-64 and young people in grades 7-9, offering workshops, job clubs, professional training programmes, counselling, and internships tailored to the Roma community. Additionally, a pilot network of Roma support personnel will be launched in five regions of Estonia: Valga County, Tartu County, Harju County, Ida-Viru County, and Pärnu County. The Roma employment rate stood at 17.5% in 2025, against a target of 21% by 2028. According to available data, 68.8% of Roma are economically inactive, while 15.7% are unemployed[78].

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note that whilst the mentoring service in Valga supported ten young Roma in finding summer jobs in 2023, employment is not its primary focus, which limits its impact on Roma unemployment. The lack of tailored labour market services continues to pose challenges. CSOs call for mentorship services to be expanded to municipalities like Tallinn, Ida-Virumaa, and Tartu to make support more accessible, and argue that providing dedicated employment mentors would offer more focused guidance.

ASSESSMENT: Estonia has recently increased its focus on Roma labour market inclusion through the ESF+-funded Roma employment project and the planned network of Roma support personnel across several regions. These initiatives may help improve access to employment support and tailored services for Roma communities. Continued efforts to expand targeted employment support beyond existing local initiatives, alongside improved monitoring of labour market outcomes, could further support the development of more effective and inclusive employment policies for Roma communities.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS MADE: According to the Health Care Services Organisation Act[79], anyone in Estonia is entitled to emergency care, funded by the state for those without health insurance. General medical care for insured individuals is also state-funded, with health insurance payments made through social tax on gross wages by most of the

[78] Available at: https://www.fin.ee/sites/default/files/documents/2022-10/L%C3%B5imumisprogramm%202023-2026.pdf .
[79] Available at: https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/ee/Riigikogu/act/531102013003/consolide.

working-age population. These payments cover health services for groups not actively contributing, including children, pensioners, pregnant women, mothers at home with young children, and registered unemployed individuals. As a result, unemployed Roma registered with the Estonian Unemployment Insurance Fund have access to free general medical care and are covered by health insurance.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report that no advancements have been made in Roma health or equitable access to healthcare and social services. The Cohesive Estonia 2030 strategy and Integration Programmes lack references to Roma healthcare. No data are collected on healthcare coverage for Roma or antigypsyism within the healthcare system, making it difficult to assess disparity. RCM interviews indicate issues such as lack of health insurance and occasional discriminatory attitudes. To address these gaps, targeted research and inclusion of relevant measures in future Integration Programmes are needed.

ASSESSMENT: The healthcare system in Estonia provides universal access to emergency care and state-funded medical coverage for insured and socially protected groups, including registered unemployed persons. This framework also applies to Roma communities. However, the limited availability of disaggregated data and the absence of Roma-specific references in key policy documents make it difficult to fully assess outcomes in practice and the extent to which Roma communities effectively access healthcare and social services.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS MADE: No progress has been reported. Estonian Roma, who are permanent residents, live in conventional housing. Social housing applications are governed by local regulations, such as in Valga, where applicants submit a one-page form to the local government's social services office or social adviser for a housing decision. Despite the significant Roma population in areas like Valga and other municipalities, there are no specialised services developed by the government or civil society to ensure Roma access to housing.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Estonian Romalive in regular housing, but there are no specialized services to ensure adequate, desegregated housing or access to essential services specifically for the Roma community. Challenges in securing affordable rentals, compounded by market conditions and discriminatory attitudes, can lead to dependency on social housing. Despite no reports of homelessness, poor living conditions have been observed. CSOs argue that targeted research is essential to better understand these issues and address the lack of comprehensive data.

ASSESSMENT: The housing system in Estonia is based on mainstream measures, and available information indicates that Roma generally live in conventional housing, with no reported homelessness. At the same time, the limited availability of disaggregated data makes it difficult to assess housing conditions and access in practice. The available information points to possible challenges related to affordability and access to the housing market, while no Roma-specific housing measures or services have been reported.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS MADE: All integration policies, development and action plans incorporate measures for Roma integration and inclusion. Local civil society participates in the policymaking preparatory process, ensuring diverse stakeholder involvement. The NRCP coordinates the Roma Integration Council and participates in working groups, making budget proposals and engaging in dialogue with local municipalities. A Steering Committee has been established for the implementation of Cohesive Estonia 2030, involving relevant ministries, the Association of Estonian Cities and Rural Municipalities, and representatives of stakeholders and experts. The NRCP cooperates with the Anti-Racism Action Plan Network and the Office of the Equality Commissioner.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Despite some involvement of the European Roma Forum in developing the Cohesive Estonia Strategy 2021 - 2030, Roma participation in implementation and monitoring remains limited. Existing mechanisms are mainly consultative, with the Roma Integration Council functioning primarily as an information-sharing body without decision-making powers. Local involvement is linked to small-scale initiatives, while Roma representation in public institutions and formal participation in monitoring and evaluation processes appears limited.

ASSESSMENT: Estonia has integrated Roma inclusion within broader policy and coordination frameworks, involving a range of public institutions, local authorities, and civil society actors. Existing participation mechanisms, including the Roma Integration Council and the Steering Committee for Cohesive Estonia 2030, provide platforms for dialogue and coordination. At the same time, available information indicates that Roma participation in implementation,

monitoring, and evaluation processes remains mainly consultative, while data collection and monitoring mechanisms are still limited.
PROMISING PRACTICES
The project '*Untold Stories: Roma Youth in Youth Work and Education*,'80 led by the Estonian NGO International House in collaboration with partners from Latvia, Lithuania, and Finland during 2022-2023, was funded by Erasmus+. It aimed to enhance support for Roma children and youth by strengthening the capacity of professionals in the Baltic region. The project offered Roma families a platform to share experiences, using storytelling to provide insights into the impact of stigmatisation and discrimination on education. It also produced guidance materials and inspirational videos featuring Roma educational journeys. This initiative marked the first major NGO-led effort without state involvement, offering valuable lessons.

[80] Available at: https://kaart.noored.ee/en/projects/arc_9290/.

Table 7 - Ireland

Ireland	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	National Traveller and Roma inclusion strategy – NTRIS II (2024-28)[81]. The strategy comprises two documents: (1) the overarching strategy; and (2) a two-year action plan. A second action plan will be developed for 2026-2028 following the mid-term review.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	32 949 Travellers recorded in census figures; according to the Department of Housing's 2023 annual count of travellers[82], there are 12 360 families (approximately 50 000). 16 059 Roma according to 2022 census figures[83] Council of Europe estimates: approximately 37 500 (0.84% of the population)[84].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Department of Children, Disability and Equality
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP comprises six employees and operates without a dedicated budget. It is responsible for coordinating, implementing, and monitoring the NRSF, while also contributing to its ongoing development. As a cross-departmental strategy, the NRCP works closely with various government departments, state agencies, and Travellers and Roma representative organisations. These stakeholders are represented on the NTRIS II Steering Committee, which oversees the implementation of the strategy and its associated action plan. Chaired by the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality, the Steering Committee intends to ensure accountability and the effective delivery of NTRIS II commitments. This leadership also signals to Traveller and Roma communities that government departments and state agencies will be held accountable for the delivery of agreed actions.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: The national action plan against racism (NAPAR)[85] was published in 2023, with implementation, monitoring, and review overseen by the Anti-Racism Committee, which includes Traveller and Roma community representatives. Dr Ebun Joseph was appointed Special Rapporteur on Racial Equality and Racism on 1 July 2024[86], tasked with independently monitoring and reporting on the NAPAR's progress. As part of Action 1 in the NTRIS II action plan, the Special Rapporteur will specifically report on progress regarding the Traveller and Roma communities. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs report that the NRSF aligns with the national action plan against	

[81] Available at: https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-children-disability-and-equality/publications/national-traveller-and-roma-inclusion-strategy-ii-2024-2028-ntris-ii/
[82] Available at: Department of Housing, Local Government, Heritage (2023) Traveller Accommodation Statistics https://assets.gov.ie/static/documents/2023-annual-estimate-of-accommodation-of-travellers-in-all-categories-of-accommodation.pdf.
[83] Available at: Central Statistics Office (2022) CSO population data.https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/population/censusofpopulation2022/.
[84] Available at: CoE estimates of Roma population: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[85] Available at: https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-children-disability-and-equality/publications/national-action-plan-against-racism/.
[86] Available at: https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-children-disability-and-equality/press-releases/minister-joe-obrien-announces-the-appointment-of-the-special-rapporteur-for-the-national-action-plan-against-racism/.

racism (NAPAR), promoting Traveller and Roma inclusion and recognising intersectional discrimination. The Criminal Justice (Hate Offences) Act 2024[87] was adopted and NTRIS II addresses Traveller overrepresentation in the criminal justice system. However, CSOs highlight weakening political commitment to tackling racism, persistent prison overrepresentation of Travellers (0.6% of the population), and limited implementation of the Human Rights and Equality Duty[88].

ASSESSMENT: Ireland is encouraged to continue efforts to prevent and address discrimination and antigypsyism affecting Roma and Traveller communities. Building on the adoption of NAPAR and the Criminal Justice Act 2024, further efforts could focus on ensuring effective implementation, including through the work of the Special Rapporteur on Racial Equality and Racism**.** Available evidence indicates ongoing experiences of discrimination and hate-motivated incidents, including the persistent overrepresentation of Travellers in the criminal justice system. According to the FRA Traveller and Roma Survey 2024[89], Travellers in Ireland experienced the highest reported levels of discrimination across all included countries. Strengthening effective reporting and follow-up systems and ensuring full implementation of the Human Rights and Equality Duty - would support more targeted and evidence-based action. Continued engagement with Traveller and Roma organisations in monitoring NAPAR would further consolidate progress in this area.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Ireland has advanced poverty reduction through mainstream frameworks that explicitly name Travellers and Roma as beneficiaries. The Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020 – 2025[90] provides an overarching framework for reducing consistent poverty and increasing social inclusion, with Travellers and Roma named as intended beneficiaries. The First 5 – Strategy 2019 – 2028[91] includes measures to address early childhood poverty, with Traveller and Roma children explicitly named as a target group. Under NTRIS II, work is ongoing with National Traveller MABS[92] and national Traveller and Roma organisations to enhance access to banking, payment and credit initiatives, with a report expected by end 2025[93]. The overall budget to further Traveller and Roma education, employment and social inclusion increased from approximately EUR 7 million to EUR 8 million between 2023 and 2025.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: NTRIS II includes actions promoting Traveller and Roma culture and arts, supporting recognition and inclusion. A Traveller heritage strategy is under development, while funding continues for initiatives such as Traveller Pride Week and International Roma Day. However, poverty remains disproportionately high among these communities (96%)[94]. Mainstream anti-poverty policies lack specific targets for Travellers and Roma, and NTRIS II includes limited measures addressing socio-economic exclusion. Many Roma also face barriers accessing social protection due to documentation, discrimination and language obstacles.

ASSESSMENT: Ireland could build on existing mainstream frameworks by ensuring that specific targets and measurable outcomes for Travellers and Roma are embedded within anti-poverty initiatives such as the Roadmap for Social Inclusion and the First 5 strategy. Bridging gaps in access to social protection — particularly for Roma facing documentation, discrimination and language barriers — remains a priority. Continued collaboration with Traveller and Roma organisations, alongside adequate resourcing of NTRIS II actions, would strengthen the delivery of social inclusion commitments.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

[87] Available at:https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2024/act/41/enacted/en/html and https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-children-disability-and-equality/press-releases/minister-joe-obrien-announces-the-appointment-of-the-special-rapporteur-for-the-national-action-plan-against-racism/ and https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-justice-home-affairs-and-migration/press-releases/minister-of-state-colm-brophy-announces-publication-of-the-first-annual-report-of-the-special-rapporteur-for-racism-and-racial-equality-dr-ebun-joseph/.
[88] Available at: https://www.ihrec.ie/guides-and-tools/human-rights-and-equality-in-the-public-sector/what-does-the-duty-require/.
[89] Available at: https://www.paveepoint.ie/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/FRA-Report-2026-AF-WEB-1.pdf.
[90] Available at: https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-social-protection/publications/roadmap-for-social-inclusion-2020-2025/
[91] Available at: https://assets.gov.ie/static/documents/first-5-a-whole-of-government-strategy-for-babies-young-children-and-their-families-20.pdf .
[92] Available at: https://www.ntmabs.org.
[93] Timeline as set out by NTRIS II Action Plan, though the Report was unpublished at the time of writing.
[94] Available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/project/2024/roma-survey-2024.

REPORTED PROGRESS: The key achievement for this objective was ensuring adequate representation of Roma and Travellers on the overseeing structures for the NTRIS II. This representation provides them with the opportunity to participate in the development of NTRIS II, monitor and scrutinise implementation processes, and advocate for modifications in delivery as needed. This platform provides Roma and Travellers organisations with a direct opportunity to monitor and interrogate implementation processes while advocating for necessary modifications in policy delivery. The development of the current strategy was informed by an extensive local consultation process across the country. Furthermore, the NRCP staff was expanded in 2024 to strengthen the coordination and monitoring of these participation-oriented actions.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Under Theme 9 of NTRIS II, actions aim to assess representative structures and address barriers to Traveller engagement while evaluating Roma advocacy needs at local level. The appointment and subsequent election of a Traveller woman to the Seanad marks progress in political representation. However, Travellers and Roma remain underrepresented in decision-making, highlighting the need for stronger support for autonomous organisations and their participation in policy processes.

ASSESSMENT: Ireland could improve Traveller and Roma engagement by collaborating with their organisations to address barriers to participation and advocacy needs. Allocating funding to support both existing and new autonomous organisations would strengthen their role in policy consultation, design and service delivery. Strengthening Roma community infrastructure, alongside targeted measures to boost political participation, would help address their underrepresentation and overcome exclusion in decision-making processes.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: The National Traveller and Roma Education Strategy 2024-2030 (TRES)[95] has been developed to address the specific educational needs of children, young people, and adults within the Traveller and Roma communities. Its aim is to enhance educational experiences and success by improving attendance, participation, and retention among Traveller and Roma students. As a key action within NTRIS II, the strategy offers a framework to achieve equality in education outcomes, foster an inclusive school environment, and promote respect for the cultural identity of Travellers and Roma in educational settings.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report on the creation of the first National Traveller and Roma Education Strategy along with implementation plans to ensure inclusive education across all levels for these communities. Positive steps also include setting targets within the national access plan for equity of access in higher education[96], which helps monitor and improve educational outcomes for Travellers and Roma. Additionally, the Early Start programme[97] focuses on early years education and aims to employ staff to improve educational results for these groups. Robust implementation, accurate data gathering, and resource allocation are essential to overcoming educational disadvantages faced by Travellers and Roma.

ASSESSMENT: Efficient implementation of the TRES and the national access plan for equity of access in higher education will be key to improve the educational outcomes for the Traveller and Roma children and youth as significant gaps persist in access and attainment. Their evidence-informed evaluations should inform future policies. To address the educational gaps affecting Roma and Traveller children, as well those from other vulnerable groups, Ireland should step up efforts to transition to high-quality public early childhood education and care.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: Ireland has made progress in expanding Traveller and Roma access to employment through targeted initiatives. The Department of Justice launched a pilot Traveller and Roma internship programme in 2023 (TAIP)[98], placing eight interns across several government departments, with a pathway to permanent employment

[95] Available at: https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/consultations/traveller-and-roma-education-strategy/.
[96] Available at: https://hea.ie/policy/access-policy/national-access-plan-2022-2028/.
[97] Available at: https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/publications/early-start-pre-school-programme/.
[98] Available at: https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-public-expenditure-infrastructure-public-service-reform-and-digitalisation/publications/civil-service-traveller-and-roma-work-placement-programme/ .

being developed. Traveller unemployment rate fell from 80% (2016) to 61% (2022), with the employment rate increasing from 11.9% to 18%[99] and in 2024 to 22%[100]. TAIP provides grants of up to EUR 3.000 to support Travellers in accessing apprenticeships. Targets have been set to increase the employment rate for Travellers overall to 27% and for Traveller women to 24% by census 2027.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note Irland's commitment to developing a Traveller and Roma training, employment and enterprise plan under the Pathways to Work strategy, although it has not yet been launched. Existing initiatives, including the Traveller apprenticeship scheme and civil service work placement programme, support employment. However, unemployment remains high due to discrimination and low educational attainment. Roma may face barriers accessing job-seeking supports due to residency rules, while Traveller and Roma women face childcare costs and concerns about losing essential benefits such as the medical card.

ASSESSMENT: Irland has made progress in expanding Traveller and Roma access to employment through targeted initiatives and the establishment of quantitative targets. Building on these gains, further efforts could focus on ensuring effective implementation of the Traveller and Roma training, employment and enterprise plan under the Pathways to Work Strategy, which has not yet been launched. Addressing persistent barriers — including discrimination, low educational attainment and childcare costs that prevent Traveller and Roma women from accessing the labour market — remains a priority. Continued expansion of the internship programme and the Traveller apprenticeship incentivisation programme could further support sustainable employment pathways.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The implementation of the national traveller health action plan 2022-2027 (NTHAP)[101] marks a significant achievement in addressing health disparities faced by the Traveller community. This plan acknowledges the barriers Travellers encounter in accessing healthcare services and aims to meet their specific health needs—spanning physical, mental, and social well-being—through a social determinants approach. To support the plan's execution, the Department of Health has allocated an additional ring-fenced funding of EUR 1 million in 2023, with EUR 300 000 dedicated specifically to enhancing mental health services for Travellers.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs view the NTHAP as significant progress in addressing systemic racism and social determinants of health, strengthening cooperation between health services and Traveller organisations. However, its success depends on adequate resources and ethnically disaggregated monitoring. The planned Roma health action plan under NTRIS II is also welcomed. Nonetheless, Travellers and Roma continue to face poor health outcomes, barriers to medical cards, and underinvestment in Roma health infrastructure, while the retention of Traveller community health workers remains crucial for health information access.

ASSESSMENT: Ireland should address persistent health inequalities affecting Travellers and Roma by ensuring sustained funding and effective implementation of the NTHAP and accelerating the Roma health action plan in cooperation with Roma organisations. Travellers and Roma continue to face poorer health outcomes due to structural inequalities, including racism, barriers to healthcare access and limited ethnically disaggregated data. Many Roma struggle to access medical cards and health services due to residency and administrative requirements, while community health supports remain under-resourced. Ireland should also expand the Traveller community health worker programme to strengthen outreach and improve monitoring through better data collection and anti-racism measures.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The Tipperary Roma health and accommodation pilot project[102] was launched to enhance health outcomes for Roma living in insecure or unsuitable housing in Tipperary, alongside findings from the Tipperary Roma homeless & housing, health & social care needs assessment[103]. Utilising the public sector equality & human

[99] Available at: https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cp5dm/censusofpopulation2022-profile5diversitymigrationethnicityirishtravellersandreligion/.
[100] Available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/project/2024/roma-survey-2024.
[101] Available at: https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/37592/1/national-traveller-health-action-plan-2022-2027.pdf.
[102] Available at: https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/media/pressrel/launch-of-reports-focused-on-roma-community-in-co-tipperary.html.
[103] Available at: https://youthworktipperary.ie/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Roma-Needs-Assessment-Report-Final.pdf.

rights duty[104], the project aimed to address the health and accommodation needs of the Roma community. The findings underscored the necessity of providing advocacy support to help Roma understand their rights and access services. As part of the accommodation theme, action No 46 of NTRIS II involves reviewing these pilot project findings and sharing relevant lessons with local authorities to improve housing and homelessness services for the Roma community.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note that a new national caravan loan scheme for Travellers[105], will provide preferential loans from local authorities to purchase caravans as primary residences. The scheme raises the loan limit from EUR 40.000 to EUR 80.000 in certain circumstances and could have positive impacts if implemented effectively. However, the accommodation crisis among Travellers and Roma continues to worsen amid Ireland's broader housing and homelessness challenges. Despite increased budgets and full spending on Traveller accommodation since 2020, progress remains slow and focused mainly on maintenance rather than new units. NTRIS II accommodation measures remain limited and insufficiently address the specific housing needs of Roma.

ASSESSMENT: Ireland is encouraged to build on existing initiatives, such as the Tipperary Roma health and accommodation pilot, which applies the public sector equality and human rights duty to address intersecting needs. At the same time, available information suggests a gap between national strategies and local implementation. The expansion of the national caravan loan scheme represents a measure supporting culturally appropriate accommodation; however, stakeholders indicate that progress has focused largely on maintenance rather than increasing overall housing capacity. Despite full use of allocated budgets, housing challenges remain significant, indicating the need for continued attention to implementation and outcomes.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRCP facilitates participation of Roma and pro-Roma civil society in the design, implementation, monitoring and review of the NRSFs and local action plans. The NTRIS II Steering Committee, chaired by the NRCP (Minister of Children, Disability and Equality) includes representatives of Traveller and Roma civil society groups, government departments and state agencies. Local consultations with Traveller and Roma community members have contributed to shaping the NTRIS II. Additionally, funding is allocated to the National Traveller Partnership, which consists of 14 local Traveller organisations.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report that NTRIS II strengthens the previous strategy by focusing more on outcomes and implementation, supported by two-year action plans with clear deliverables and timelines. It promotes collaboration with Traveller organisations and Roma groups, coordinates efforts at central-government level, and considers the public sector duty. The strategy also aims to increase Traveller and Roma participation in decision-making and support Roma civil society infrastructure. Implementation began with the first NTRIS Steering Committee meeting in May 2025, with regular updates published since late 2024 and a Traveller and Roma Forum planned to support community engagement.

ASSESSMENT: To further enhance the participation of Roma and Traveller communities in Ireland, ongoing efforts should focus on strengthening their decision-making and political representation within the NTRIS II framework. Building a robust network of Roma organisations will help address the need for a more developed Roma civil society infrastructure. Ensuring effective implementation through detailed action plans and fostering collaboration at the central government level is vital. The establishment of the annual Traveller and Roma Forum provides a valuable platform for community voices, offering an opportunity to assess committee progress and influence future strategies and actions.

PROMISING PRACTICES

Under Action 34 of the NTRIS II action plan, the Department of Justice is developing and implementing a Traveller and Roma internship programme in the civil service, co-designed with Traveller and Roma organisations. The programme provides placements across several government departments and includes a pathway to permanency, allowing successful participants to apply for permanent roles through a confined competition. This positive action measure aims to address systemic racism, reduce employment inequalities and support greater Traveller and Roma representation within the public sector.

[104] Available at: https://www.ihrec.ie/guides-and-tools/human-rights-and-equality-in-the-public-sector/what-does-the-duty-require/.
[105] Available at: https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-housing-local-government-and-heritage/press-releases/minister-dillon-announces-new-preferential-caravan-loan-scheme-to-enhance-delivery-of-traveller-accommodation/.

Table 8 - Greece

Greece	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	National strategy and action plan for the social inclusion of Roma 2021--2030[106]
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	117 000 (according to the 2021 government mapping) – around 1.1 % of the population[107]. Council of Europe estimates: approximately 175 000 Roma live in Greece (1.55% of the population)[108].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	General Secretariat for Social Solidarity and Fight Against Poverty - Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP is responsible for coordinating and monitoring national policies on Roma social inclusion. With an annual budget of EUR 84 000 in both 2023 and 2024 and a team of four staff members, the Secretariat oversees the implementation of the national Roma inclusion strategy 2021-2030. It chairs the Governmental Committee for Roma Social Inclusion, where it coordinates and reviews sectoral policies, and works closely with an advisory committee composed of ministry officials and Roma representatives. In addition, the Secretariat manages funding for Roma inclusion measures under the NSRF 2021–2027 (ESF+, ERDF), the Recovery and Resilience Facility, and national sources.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Greece implemented measures to combat antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma. Institutional cooperation was strengthened through the Hellenic Police, including training on social mediation, hate crimes and anti-racism, and the establishment of the Social Policing Directorate in 2025. Awareness initiatives included anti-racism and cultural events, documentaries and campaigns promoting positive Roma role models. Educational actions, such as the Romani Language Programme and school activities on Roma history and the Roma Holocaust, promoted multicultural awareness. The Roma Human Rights Observatory, an NGO-led monitoring mechanism documenting human rights issues affecting Roma operating since 2021, collected 914 reports of rights violations from several regions, strengthening monitoring and advocacy efforts. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs acknowledge progress in establishing a dedicated NRSF pillar on antigypsyism, developing governance structures such as the Governmental Committee, Advisory Committee, and the Roma Forum, and creating police units and helplines to combat racist violence. However, they highlight persistent challenges, including continued hate speech and police brutality, underreporting of antigypsyism incidents, the inactiveness of the Observatory, low trust in complaint mechanisms, piecemeal implementation of measures, absence of a legal ban on racial profiling, and ongoing antigypsyism narratives in media and official discourse. **ASSESSMENT**: Greece is encouraged to build on recent institutional developments by ensuring the effective and sustained implementation of measures combating antigypsyism across all sectors. Going forward, priority could be given to fully operationalising monitoring and reporting mechanisms, including the Roma Human Rights Observatory, and strengthening accessible, trusted complaint procedures for victims of discrimination and abuse. Further efforts to improve accountability and safeguards in law enforcement may help reinforce institutional trust. Continued investment	

[106] Available at: https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/0b001c2c-94d6-494a-a396-03dc7a7a3904_en?filename=1_1_greece_national_roma_integration_strategy-2021_2030.pdf.
[107] Available at: ΕΘΝΙΚΗ-ΚΑΤΑΓΡΑΦΗ-ΠΛΗΘΥΣΜΟΥ-ΡΟΜΑ-2021_FINAL_compressed.pdf.
[108] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.

in education, public awareness and Roma participation in policymaking could also help counteract persistent stereotypes, promote evidence-based public narratives and ensure more coherent implementation of anti-discrimination policies nationwide.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Reducing poverty among Roma relies largely on access to mainstream social protection schemes. A key measure is the Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI), supporting vulnerable households; between 2022-2024, more than 331 000 applications from Roma households were submitted, covering about 632 000 individuals and nearly EUR 74 million in benefits. Additional assistance includes child allowances, food support through the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD), and the school meals programme, which addresses nutritional needs and helps prevent school dropouts among disadvantaged pupils. Targeted support is further provided through community centres with dedicated Roma branches, offering mediation, counselling and guidance on welfare, employment and education opportunities, reaching more than 61 000 Roma beneficiaries in 2023.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report that Roma in Greece are formally eligible for mainstream social protection schemes, including the GMI, child benefits, housing allowances and the FEAD food-aid programme. community centres with Roma branches operate in around 70 municipalities, providing counselling and assistance with benefit applications. However, the impact of these measures remains limited. Poverty, food insecurity and material deprivation among Roma remain significantly higher than national averages. Digital illiteracy and lack of identification documents prevent many Roma from accessing income-support schemes. Moreover, some Roma branches are located near segregated settlements, reinforcing spatial exclusion.

ASSESSMENT: Greece is encouraged to further strengthen the effectiveness and accessibility of mainstream social protection schemes and community centres for Roma communities. FRA data show that 88% of Roma in Greece are at risk of poverty, compared with 19%[109] of the general population[110], which points to persistent structural inequalities. Going forward, Greece could focus on reducing practical barriers to accessing support, including digital illiteracy and lack of civil documentation, while ensuring sustainable funding and broader territorial coverage of community centres with Roma branches. Strengthening monitoring and evaluation of social protection outcomes for Roma may also support the development of more targeted, evidence-based policies aimed at reducing persistent poverty and material deprivation.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Greece reported several measures aimed at strengthening Roma participation and empowerment. Integrated actions were implemented between 2020 and 2024 under the EEA grants programme 'Social Inclusion and Empowerment of Roma'[111], focusing particularly on Roma youth, women and children and supporting local initiatives promoting community participation. Participation mechanisms were further supported through the national Roma platform 'For Roma with Roma' (2023-2025), which includes the Roma Forum as an advisory body of Roma organisations providing input to the national Roma inclusion strategy. Community centres with Roma branches operating in municipalities with significant Roma populations also support empowerment and access to services. In addition, Roma CSOs participate in consultation processes and monitoring structures, including EU funds monitoring committees.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge progress in promoting participation through the establishment of the Roma Forum, limited internships for young Roma in the NRCP, and small CERV/EEA-funded capacity-building projects targeting Roma women and youth. However, they stress the following: Roma CSOs remain severely under-resourced, formal participation mechanisms lack real decision-making power, there is no Roma representation in senior ministry positions, local action plans are often drafted without community consultation and

[109] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code ilc_li02), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_li02__custom_22314605/default/table.
[110] European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights – Roma Survey 2024.available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/2025/roma-survey-2024.
[111] Available at: https://eeagrants.org/en/fmo/news/programme-agreement-signed-roma-inclusion-and-empowerment-programme-greece?utm.

Roma influence on ESF+ /ERDF programme monitoring and project selection remains minimal.

ASSESSMENT: Greece is encouraged to build on existing participation structures by strengthening the long-term capacity and institutional role of Roma civil society organisations in policymaking and implementation. Going forward, ensuring that mechanisms such as the Roma Forum and local consultation processes have meaningful influence on decision-making, programme design and budget allocation could support more effective and inclusive policies. Further efforts to promote the participation of Roma professionals in public administration and advisory structures may help integrate community expertise into national and local governance. Enhancing the role of Roma stakeholders in the monitoring and selection of ESF+ and ERDF-funded projects could also contribute to more transparent, responsive and sustainable inclusion measures.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Greece reported several measures to improve Roma access to inclusive mainstream education. A key programme, 'Supportive interventions in Roma communities to enhance access and reduce early school dropout'[112], was implemented between 2020 and 2023 in eight regions, covering 31 settlements and 227 schools. The programme provided awareness-raising activities, psychosocial support and educational assistance, reaching 27 502 Roma students. Participation of Roma pupils in education increased from 15 834 in 2021-2022 to 19 405 in 2023-2024, partly linked to the connection between social benefits and school attendance. Additional initiatives include reception classes, second chance schools and scholarship schemes, including 53 scholarships awarded to Roma students through the Hellenic Open University to support access to higher education and improve long-term educational and labour market opportunities for Roma youth.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note progress in improving Roma access to education through measures such as school transportation, class dispersal policies and the presence of social workers in some schools. Enrolment of Roma children in early childhood education has also increased. At the same time, challenges remain regarding the consistent implementation of inclusive education measures across all regions. CSOs report that patterns of de facto school segregation continue to affect some Roma pupils, while a comprehensive national framework for monitoring Roma school attendance and dropout rates has yet to be fully developed. Limited participation in kindergarten and language-related barriers, particularly for pupils whose first language is Romani, may also continue to affect the transition into Greek-language education and broader educational outcomes.

ASSESSMENT: Recent measures to improve Roma participation in mainstream education, including supportive interventions, scholarships and second chance education, provide a stronger basis for reducing early school leaving and improving long-term educational outcomes. Increased enrolment of Roma pupils and greater support in disadvantaged schools are positive developments. However, ensuring consistent implementation of inclusive education measures across all regions remains essential. According to FRA data, 57% of Roma children attend segregated schools[113], while OECD PISA 2022 results show that only 7.1% of disadvantaged students in Greece reached level 4 or above in at least one domain, compared with the EU average of 16.3%[114]. Further efforts are needed to strengthen desegregation, improve monitoring, address language barriers and ensure equal access to quality education for Roma children.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: Measures focused on improving Roma access to entrepreneurship and subsidised employment through the public employment service (DYPA)[115]. A subsidy programme for Roma aged 20-44 supported 37 individuals with EUR 14 800 each to start businesses, mainly in Attica, Peloponnese and Western Greece. Additionally, 51 Roma joined a national programme subsidising employment for 10 000 unemployed people. The number of Roma social cooperative enterprises (KOINSEP) increased from 3 in 2023 to 14 in 2025, involving around 95 Roma. A training and internship programme for unemployed Roma is also planned to improve skills and work

[112] Available at: https://roma-mak.del.auth.gr/.
[113] European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights – Roma Survey 2024.available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/2025/roma-survey-2024.
[114] OECD PISA 2022; European Commission, Education and Training Monitor 2025, Figure 20 .
[115] Available at: https://www.dypa.gov.gr/en.

experience. However, limited information, application barriers and weak support structures continue to hinder Roma participation.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Some progress has been reported in supporting Roma employment through youth entrepreneurship grants administered by DYPA and pilot initiatives such as the RRP programme on the social reintegration of vulnerable Roma groups. However, these measures remain limited in scale and impact. Unemployment and informal work remain widespread among Roma, while large-scale targeted active labour market programmes are largely absent. Local action plans rarely allocate sufficient funding for employment initiatives. In addition, structural barriers persist, including limited access to training opportunities and weak outreach to Roma communities. Discrimination in the labour market and the absence of clear pathways for Roma recruitment into the public sector further restrict sustainable employment opportunities.

ASSESSMENT: Recent entrepreneurship and subsidised employment measures provide a basis for improving Roma access to the labour market, including through support for Roma-led businesses, social cooperative enterprises and training initiatives. The increase in Roma KOINSEP and targeted support for young entrepreneurs are positive developments that could contribute to longer-term economic inclusion. However, the scale of current measures remains limited compared to persistent unemployment and informal work among Roma communities. Moving forward, stronger implementation of local action plans, improved outreach and access to training, and sustainable funding will be important to expand participation. Further efforts are also needed to address labour market discrimination and create clearer pathways to stable and formal employment, including in the public sector.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: A notable achievement is the implementation of the project 'Local Health Teams (TOMY)', delivered under the regional operational programmes of NSRF 2014-2020 and financed by the European Social Fund until December 2023. The programme established 127 TOMY units across all 13 regions of EL, providing primary healthcare, preventive services and health promotion to vulnerable populations. By 2024, over 600 560 people were registered. As services are delivered through mainstream structures, no disaggregated data on Roma beneficiaries are collected. Following Joint Ministerial Decision No. 91986/09-10-2023, the programme continues under ESF+ within the NSRF 2021–2027, ensuring continuity of community-based primary healthcare services.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight progress in improving Roma health through initiatives like the nationwide 'Health for All' programme, which has significantly increased vaccination coverage and provided primary care services, and the theoretical extension of primary care via Law 4931/22. However, they highlight the absence of dedicated Roma health mediators, unstable project-based funding, lack of data on health coverage and outcomes, persistent barriers related to distance, documentation, and mistrust, and very limited access to mental health and addiction services.

ASSESSMENT: The continuation of the TOMY programme under ESF+ provides an important basis for improving access to community-based primary healthcare for vulnerable groups, including Roma. Expanding access to mainstream healthcare services and outreach initiatives could help reduce barriers related to distance, documentation and mistrust. Moving forward, further efforts will be needed to ensure healthcare reforms effectively reach uninsured and marginalised Roma populations. Establishing a nationwide system of Roma health mediators with stable funding, alongside stronger monitoring of health coverage and outcomes, could support more targeted interventions. Increased attention to mental health and addiction services, as well as continuity of funding beyond project-based schemes, will also be important for improving long-term Roma health inclusion.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Greece reported measures aimed at improving Roma living conditions and access to adequate housing through settlement relocation, infrastructure improvements and access to mainstream housing programmes. A key initiative was the call under the sectoral development programme of the Ministry of Interior, supporting municipalities in developing organised relocation areas and upgrading infrastructure in Roma settlements. Relocation plans for 15 settlements were approved, with the aim of benefiting about 13 539 Roma individuals. In addition, 51 Roma households benefited from the 'Housing and Work for the Homeless' programme, which combines housing support with employment and social services. The report also highlights the closure of the Agioi Apostoloi Roma settlement in Rhodes, where residents were helped to move into independent housing through coordinated

welfare and employment measures. Recent calls for integrated actions implemented at the local level (ITIs) and funded under ERDF support the establishment of 'Neighbourhood Centres' (Kentra Geitonias), including in Dytiki Ellada, providing employment, learning, psychosocial and community-based support to improve living conditions and social inclusion.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Progress in improving Roma housing through legal tools enabling temporary relocations and infrastructure upgrades, as well as the EU- and nationally funded rent subsidy for Roma programme, has been noted. However, flagship relocation projects have often failed, many settlements still lack basic services, and infrastructure upgrades risk reinforcing segregation. Forced evictions continue with limited safeguards, while mainstream housing benefits rarely reach Roma due to documentation barriers and persistent discrimination.

ASSESSMENT: Recent measures on settlement relocation, infrastructure improvements and access to mainstream housing programmes provide a basis for improving Roma housing inclusion. Moving forward, it is important to ensure stronger coordination between ERDF and ESF+ interventions and effective implementation of local action plans will be important to support sustainable and community-led solutions. Further efforts are needed to ensure that housing and infrastructure projects contribute to spatial desegregation and do not reinforce existing segregation patterns. According to FRA data, 68% of Roma experience housing deprivation compared with 18%[116] of the general population, highlighting persistent inequalities in access to adequate housing. Improving access to mainstream housing support, addressing discrimination and ensuring timely implementation of relocation projects will remain essential for long-term social inclusion.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRCP ensures active involvement of Roma and pro-Roma civil society across policy design, implementation and monitoring, integrating their input into national strategies, EU-funded programmes and local interventions. Regional and local authorities contribute through local action plans, guiding actions in education, employment, health, and living conditions. Co-financed by ESF+ and ERDF, these support entrepreneurship, job placements, housing improvements, education support and strengthening Roma organisations. Thirteen regional operational programmes (2021-2027) include Roma inclusion actions, with 85 municipalities having submitted local action plans. The Ombudsman and National Commission for Human Rights participate in the Advisory Committee for Roma Social Inclusion, while 2024 UN reporting (CEDAW, CCPR, CERD) reflects commitment to zero tolerance of discrimination.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Roma and pro-Roma NGOs have participated in the NRSF mainly through consultation and advisory roles. During the design phase (2020–21), public drafts and surveys allowed some input, though participation was limited. Implementation (2022–25) introduced the National Advisory Committee and the Roma Forum, creating formal consultative spaces but without decision-making powers. Monitoring and evaluation remain largely inaccessible, with the Observatory still unestablished and reliant on ad hoc input. Overall, while engagement has become more structured, Roma organisations still lack decision-making authority, integration into monitoring mechanisms, and involvement in hate crime and hate speech oversight.

ASSESSMENT: Existing advisory structures, including the National Advisory Committee and Roma Forum, provide a useful basis for strengthening Roma participation in policy design, implementation and monitoring. Moving forward, Greece could enhance the effectiveness of these mechanisms by giving Roma and pro-Roma CSOs a more structured role beyond consultation, including in follow-up, monitoring and evaluation of the NRSF and local action plans. Establishing the Observatory and ensuring accessible monitoring data would support accountability and evidence-based action. Further efforts are also needed to involve Roma organisations in oversight of hate crime and hate speech responses, and to ensure that participation at national, regional and local levels meaningfully influences policy decisions and implementation.

FUNDING

Greece's Roma inclusion measures are funded through national resources, EU programmes and EEA grants, with investments across all objectives. As the NRCP has reported, EUR 3.1 million from national, EU and EEA sources was granted for combating antigypsyism, supported by the Roma Task Force Group. Poverty reduction is a major area, with EUR 60 million allocated through the Guaranteed Minimum Income scheme. Participation measures received EUR

[116] Source: Eurostat, (online data code tessi291), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/tessi291/default/table?lang=en.

14.29 million, funding community centres, mobile units and small-grant projects. Education is another priority, with EUR 55 million from national and EU programmes. Employment measures total EUR 689 400, complemented by business subsidies and training schemes. The largest funding area is health and social services, with EUR 110.49 million from national and EU programmes, including ESF and ESF+. Housing measures, funded nationally, amounted to EUR 15.7 million, including the "Housing and Work" scheme benefiting Roma households.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The NRSF defines objectives and qualitative targets for each of the seven EU-level objectives and includes indicators to monitor their implementation. These indicators cover areas such as discrimination, poverty, participation, education, employment, health and housing, reflecting many EU-level headline indicators. Baseline and target values were established following a special survey coordinated by the Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family, which supplies data for a large share of the indicators. The framework is monitored through progress reports every two years, with Roma and pro-Roma civil society organisations involved in the process.

PROMISING PRACTICES

The 'Housing and Work for the Homeless' programme[117] helps reduce poverty and social exclusion, including among Roma. It aims to support homeless individuals through a combination of housing assistance, social support and labour market integration. The programme provides rent subsidies for up to 18 months, covers essential household equipment and utility costs, and offers employment subsidies for up to 12 months for at least 20% of adult beneficiaries. In addition, participants receive psychosocial support to strengthen autonomy and facilitate social reintegration. The programme was introduced in 2017 and later established as a permanent public policy with biennial implementation funded by the state budget.

[117] Available at: https://opeka.gr/stegasi/programma-stegasi-kai-ergasia/.

Table 9 - Spain

Spain	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	Building on its previous policy from 2012 to 2020, Spain introduced its current National Roma Strategic Framework (NRSF) in 2021, titled 'national Roma strategy for equality, inclusion and participation 2021-2030' [118].
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	Council of Europe estimates: approximately 750 000 (1.63% of the population)[119].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Ministry of Social Rights, Consumers and 2030 Agenda
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP, under the Ministry of Social Rights, Consumers and 2030 Agenda operated in 2023-2025 with a budget of €13 204 207 and a team of four employees. Its institutional mandate focuses on coordinating and monitoring policies that promote Roma equality, inclusion and participation. The NRCP plays an active role in mainstreaming Roma issues across sectoral public policies by encouraging their integration into the design of social inclusion strategies and services, while working closely with relevant ministries and regional authorities to ensure that Roma needs are reflected. Additionally, it contributes to the programming and monitoring of EU funds through the Inter-Fund Committee, a body bringing together the NRCP and the administrative units responsible for ESF+ and ERDF at state level.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Spain's efforts to combat antigypsyism and discrimination centred on institutional recognition and structural change, marked by the establishment of a technical commission under the Democratic Memory Law to address historical injustices against Roma through principles of truth, justice, reparation, and non-repetition. This initiative was reinforced by the symbolic designation of 2025 as the Year of the Roma, a national policy to commemorate the 600th anniversary of the Roma arriving in Spain through 40+ events. A 2024 study by the Council for the Elimination of Racial or Ethnic Discrimination (CEDRE) highlighted persistent structural and institutional discrimination, particularly in housing, education, and public services, where Roma reported high levels of perceived bias but often avoided formal complaints due to distrust in institutions. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs acknowledge progress in strengthening the fight against antigypsyism, notably through the integration of antigypsyism indicators into the national anti-racism strategy, the publication of CEDRE's 2024 flagship report, the expansion of the State Victim Assistance and Guidance Service, and the adoption of the State Pact against Antigypsyism[120]. However, CSOs underline persistent gaps, including weak enforcement and monitoring due to the absence of a unified incident database, uneven regional implementation, persistent underreporting of discrimination cases, and the lack of dedicated mechanisms to address rising online antigypsyism. **ASSESSMENT**: Going forward, Spain could build on recent progress by strengthening implementation and monitoring mechanisms to address persistent structural antigypsyism more effectively. Expanding Roma visibility and	

[118] *Estrategia Nacional para la Igualdad, Inclusión y Participatión del Pueblo Gitano 2021-2030*. Available at: https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/739e2eaa.
[119] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[120] Spanish Congress of Deputies (2023), Report of the Subcommittee for a State Pact against Antigypsyism and the Inclusion of the Roma People, approved on 30 March 2023. https://www.congreso.es/es/notas-de-prensa?_notasprensa_mvcPath=detalle&_notasprensa_notaId=44751.

participation in public life, including through greater support for Roma women's leadership, could help challenge stereotypes and promote social inclusion. The development of a centralised incident database and more coordinated regional implementation would improve monitoring, accountability, and access to justice. Future efforts could also place greater emphasis on addressing online antigypsyism and encouraging the reporting of discrimination cases, helping to ensure more effective protection of Roma rights and evidence-based policy responses.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: A key development in this area is the adoption of a more robust strategic framework, particularly through the national strategy for the prevention and combat of poverty and social exclusion 2024–2030[121], which for the first time explicitly recognises Roma as a target group. This policy tool strengthens territorial coordination and promotes access to employment, education, and essential services through a rights-based and multidimensional approach. The new action plan for improving Roma employability 2025–2028[122]also specifically targets Roma, introducing results-based and gender-sensitive measures to close employment gaps. These efforts were further reinforced by an increase in stable funding under the Roma development plan, as well as the sustained use of ESF resources for targeted, integrated actions.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge progress in expanding poverty-reduction measures for Roma communities, including improved outreach for the MVI. However, they emphasise that poverty levels remain alarmingly high, with structural barriers to social protection, disincentives linked to benefit incompatibility, housing precariousness and exclusion from social housing, and the continued absence of reliable, disaggregated data, all of which hinder effective monitoring and sustained impact. CSOs recommend expanding MVI eligibility, simplifying application processes, ensuring compatibility with other benefits, investing in social housing, and establishing disaggregated data systems to monitor Roma poverty effectively.

ASSESSMENT: Despite some improvements, 94% of the Roma population in Spain and 96% of Roma children remain at risk of poverty[123]. Going forward, Spain could strengthen targeted pathways out of poverty by expanding access to stable employment, vocational training, and inclusive social protection measures, particularly for Roma women and young people. Simplifying access to the Minimum Vital Income and improving compatibility with other benefits may help increase uptake and effectiveness. Greater investment in social housing and the development of reliable disaggregated data systems would also support stronger monitoring, evidence-based policymaking, and more tailored interventions to reduce long-term inequalities.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Under this objective, the most important achievement was the consolidation of Roma participation through the State Council of the Roma People, which continued its regular sessions and played a central role in policy monitoring and consultation. Its working groups strengthened institutional cooperation across ministries, while regional councils in eight regions ensured territorial participation. Stable public funding enabled Roma organisations to engage actively in national and local initiatives. The 2025 Year of the Roma further empowered civil society by amplifying Roma voices in public debate and commemorating their historical presence, reinforcing trust and cooperation with public institution.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge limited advances in Roma participation, including pilot Regional Roma Councils (e.g. Basque Country, Catalonia) and planned Roma self-identification in INE statistics. However, the National Roma Council (CEPG) remains dysfunctional, lacking Roma CSO involvement and decision-making power. Participation is further hindered by the following: no binding authority; short-term CSO funding cycles; uneven territorial coverage, minimal Roma representation in public administrations; and the absence of outcome-focused indicators to evaluate policymaking impact. CSOs demand legal mandates for Roma inclusion, stable funding, and accountability mechanisms to ensure meaningful engagement.

[121] Available at: https://www.dsca.gob.es/sites/default/files/derechos-sociales/inclusion/docs/Estrategia_Prevencion_Pobreza_EN.pdf

[122] Spain, Government of Spain (Council of Ministers), 10 June 2025, Plan de Actuación para la mejora de la empleabilidad de la población gitana 2025–2028, approved by the Council of Ministers.

[123] European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights – Roma Survey 2024.available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/2025/roma-survey-2024.

ASSESSMENT: Going forward, Spain could build on the strong foundations established through the State Council of the Roma People, regional participation structures, and the momentum created by the 2025 Year of the Roma to further strengthen meaningful Roma participation in policymaking. Expanding the role and influence of consultative bodies, supported by stable funding and stronger coordination across territories, could enhance long-term cooperation and trust between Roma communities and public institutions. Greater investment in capacity-building, particularly for Roma women and youth, alongside increased Roma representation within public administration and the development of outcome-based indicators, would further support more inclusive governance and lasting structural change.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Spain's primary education achievements (2023–2025) focus on mainstreaming Roma history and enhancing inclusive support services. A key milestone was the 2024 publication of a national curriculum guide to integrate Roma history and culture into school frameworks[124]. The Programa Kumpania[125] in Valencia expanded to 28 sites, supporting 782 students with high rates of moving on to the next year of school (646) and graduation (157) rates in the 2023–2024 term. Additionally, Spain sustained high-level policy attention on equity and utilised €11.85 million in ESF+ funding for mediation services and regional programmes. These initiatives successfully addressed absenteeism and early school leaving while fostering greater family engagement and classroom inclusivity to counter institutional bias.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge some progress in promoting inclusive education, including pilot initiatives integrating Roma history and culture into school curricula, teacher training programmes, and the increased use of educational mediators in certain regions. However, they stress that persistent school segregation, high rates of leaving education early and repeating grade, uneven regional implementation, unstable funding for Roma-focused programmes, and limited structured parental engagement continue to hinder equal access to quality education for Roma children. CSOs therefore recommend the mandatory inclusion of Roma history and culture in curricula, stronger measures to prevent segregation, long-term funding for inclusive programmes such as PROA+, improved disaggregated data collection, and stricter enforcement of anti-discrimination legislation.

ASSESSMENT: Spain could build on recent progress in educational mediation and the 2024 curriculum guide by strengthening long-term structural measures to promote equal access to quality education for Roma students. Addressing persistent challenges—including the rate at which Roma leave education early, low rates of completion of secondary education, and rising levels of perceived discrimination in schools[126] will require stronger regional coordination, sustained desegregation efforts, targeted but also personalised support to Roma pupils, predictable funding and collaboration with families to avoid and prevent early school leaving. Expanding successful initiatives such as Programa Acceder and Programa Promociona, improving access to long-term systemic support, diversifying educational pathways beyond vocational education, and strengthening access to higher education could help improve university participation among Roma youth.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: The most important achievement was the approval of the action plan for improving Roma employability 2025–2028, marking the first time ES adopted a dedicated roadmap with concrete objectives, indicators, and funding for Roma labour inclusion. The plan promotes personalized, community-based pathways to employment, incorporating active labour market policies and social accompaniment tailored to the barriers faced by the Roma population. Its design was the result of a broad participatory process involving Roma civil society and expert institutions. Additionally, during the 2023–2025 period, stable public funding, complemented by the ESF+, sustained key employment programmes for vulnerable populations, while closer coordination between national and regional

[124] Available at : cpage.mpr.gob.es/publicacion/la-historia-y-cultura-del-pueblo-gitano-en-el-aula-2024-164241825-0001/.
[125] Available at: https://habitatge.gva.es/es/web/igualdad-diversidad/kumpania.
[126] European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights – Roma Survey 2024.available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/2025/roma-survey-2024.

actors strengthened outreach and implementation capacity.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note progress in promoting employment for Roma through expanded vocational training, mentoring programmes, the 'TándEM'127 youth internship initiative, and the adoption of the first tailored employment plan for the Roma population 2025–2028. However, they highlight fragmented and short-term initiatives, levels of high informality and job insecurity, limited disaggregated employment data, widespread labour market discrimination, and insufficient gender-sensitive measures. CSOs recommend funding the employment plan with multi-year budgets, expanding Acceder with stable public funding, and mandating disaggregated employment data.

ASSESSMENT: The adoption of the action plan for improving Roma employability 2025–2028 represents an important step towards a more structured and targeted approach to Roma labour inclusion in Spain. At the same time, significant gaps remain, as the employment rate among the Roma population stands at 31%, compared to 71%[128] for the general population, according to the FRA Roma Survey 2024. Building on the current momentum, further expansion of tailored training programmes, labour inclusion pathways, and anti-discrimination measures could help improve access to stable and quality employment, particularly for Roma women and young people. Stable funding, stronger coordination, and improved disaggregated employment data would also help sustainable labour market inclusion.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Roma health and access to healthcare and social services have improved with public institutions supporting outreach, health promotion, and literacy initiatives. Actions were carried out in collaboration with Roma CSOs including training professionals to reduce discrimination and address cultural barriers. The national strategy for the prevention and combat of poverty and social exclusion 2024-2030 explicitly identifies Roma as a vulnerable group and includes measures to improve access to social services. A new credit tool was announced to facilitate access to social services. These actions, together with improved coordination across government levels and Roma CSOs, contributed to a more inclusive system, aligning health objectives with broader efforts to address social determinants of health. Red Equi-Sastipen-Rroma continues to function as a national coordination platform for Roma health.

FEEDBACK FROM THE CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge progress in improving Roma health through the expansion of health mediation services, updated training manuals, integrated social determinants projects, and preparatory work for a Roma health survey module. However, they also note persistent disparities in life expectancy and chronic disease prevalence, fragmented and short-term funding for mediators, limited cultural competence training for health staff, insufficient disaggregated data, and inadequate access to mental health and social care services.

ASSESSMENT: Spain has taken important steps towards a more inclusive healthcare system through stronger coordination with Roma CSOs, expanded health mediation, and the integration of Roma health into broader anti-poverty strategies. However, significant disparities remain. According to the FRA Roma Survey 2024, Roma continue to face poorer health outcomes and barriers in accessing healthcare and social services. Going forward, expanding culturally adapted outreach, strengthening health literacy programmes, and ensuring stable funding for Roma health mediators could further improve trust and access to care. Improved disaggregated data collection and stronger coordination between health, mental health, and social services would also support more targeted and sustainable health equity measures.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The most relevant achievement was the reinforcement of institutional tools to improve Roma access to adequate, desegregated housing and essential services. The state plan for access to housing 2022-2025[129], through various support programs, and the national strategy for the prevention and combat of poverty and social exclusion 2024-2030, which explicitly targets Roma in housing-related measures, laid the groundwork for more

[127] TándEM is a public programme combining employment and training for young people, used as an active labour market measure to support the labour market integration of vulnerable groups, including Roma.
[128] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code lfsi_emp_a), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/lfsi_emp_a__custom_22376788/default/table .
[129] Available at: https://www.boe.es/buscar/doc.php?id=BOE-A-2022-802&utm.

inclusive housing policies. Additionally, a new national study on Roma housing conditions was procured in 2025. This long-awaited update will provide essential data to inform evidence-based policymaking and monitor progress more effectively.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge progress in increasing access to adequate housing, through targeted renovation grants, mapping of 72 segregated settlements, and emergency relocation and rental support offering immediate relief to many families. However, overcrowding persists, together with entrenched segregation, discrimination in social housing allocation, reliance on short-term pilot projects, and the absence of an integrated monitoring framework to assess long-term social and health outcomes.

ASSESSMENT: Spain is encouraged to build on recent policy developments by ensuring sustained implementation of desegregation and housing inclusion measures across all regions. While strategic frameworks and targeted support programmes provide an important basis for action, persistent disparities remain. FRA data show that 71% of Roma live in overcrowded conditions, compared with 9%[130] of the general population.[131] Spain should strengthen coordination between national, regional and local authorities, scale up integrated rehousing approaches, and ensure that social housing allocation effectively addresses discrimination and segregation. The planned national study on Roma housing conditions offers an opportunity to establish a stronger monitoring framework and support evidence-based policies with measurable outcomes for Roma communities. The Plan Estatal de Vivienda 2026–2030[132] could further support Roma housing inclusion through its focus on deprived areas, shanty and substandard housing, and increased public and affordable housing.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: NRCP in Spain ensures Roma participate in civil society through the Roma State Council, a consultative 40-member body (20 state reps, 20 Roma reps)- linking Roma CSOs and public institutions. Dialogue, consultations, and joint projects promote inclusive governance, while regional engagement occurs via the Technical Cooperation Group for Roma Inclusion and sectoral working groups (e.g. education, health), embedding local needs into policy. The NRCP collaborates with the Council for Racial Equality (Ministry of Equality) to advise on anti-discrimination policies across housing, health, and employment. It also works with OBERAXE, supporting racism monitoring, research, and cross-sectoral action. These partnerships strengthen coordinated, rights-based inclusion, ensuring policies reflect territorial realities and community priorities.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge progress in coordinating the NRSF through the NRCP and the State Council for the Roma People, with active participation from Roma CSOs in design, monitoring, and thematic working groups. However, they note that while formal reporting mechanisms exist and CSOs contribute to implementation and evaluation, challenges remain in ensuring consistent data collection, comprehensive follow-up, and systematic integration of civil society feedback into policy adjustments.

ASSESSMENT: Spain has established a solid institutional framework for Roma inclusion through the NRCP, the State Council of the Roma People, and cooperation with equality and anti-racism bodies. Going forward, strengthening monitoring systems and improving the availability of disaggregated data could support more effective evaluation of social outcomes and policy impact. Further reinforcing the role of Roma consultative bodies in policymaking, while enhancing coordination across regions, may help measures to be implemented more consistently. Expanding opportunities for local participation and increasing Roma representation within public administration could also strengthen trust, accountability, and the long-term sustainability of inclusive governance.

FUNDING

Spain's Roma inclusion strategy combines EU (ESF+, ERDF, RRF), national, and private funds. EUR 102.3 million of ESF+ have been allocated either to targeted measures under the specific Roma objective in ESF+ (EUR 92.8 million) or, as part of mainstream measures to the support of marginalised groups in education, employment or social inclusion, as well as support to CSOs working with Roma. The Social Inclusion, Child Guarantee and Fight Against Poverty

[130] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code ilc_lvho05a), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_lvho05a/default/table?lang=en
[131] European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights – Roma Survey 2024 https://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/2025/roma-survey-2024
[132] Available at: https://www.mivau.gob.es/vivienda/info-plan-estatal-de-vivienda-2026-2030.

Programme alone allocates EUR 61.2 million to measures promoting Roma socio-economic integration, including integrated pathways for social and labour inclusion (EUR 25 million), educational services for Roma children and youth (EUR 22.5 million), socio-economic inclusion of Roma women (EUR 10.6 million), and fight against discrimination (EUR 3.2 million). The regional programmes allocating most ESF+ resources for Roma inclusion are Andalusia (EUR 8.5 million) and Valencia (EUR 8.8 million), which corresponds to the regions with the highest concentration of Roma population. Nearly 93% of ESF+ resources dedicated to Roma socio-economic integration have been selected, well above EU average of 60.6%. An effective monitoring and evaluation of EU funded programmes, through a consistent reporting on dedicated indicators, is needed to ensure an adequate follow up of the measures targeted to Roma people.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The NRSF for Spain defines quantitative targets for all EU-level objectives except Objective 3 (Participation) and qualitative targets for Objective 3. It also includes indicators for monitoring its implementation in all EU-level objectives. These indicators correspond to the majority of the EU-level headline indicators. Spain also sets out targets to achieve by 2026 for all 56 indicators included in the monitoring framework. The country has established a mechanism for the monitoring and evaluation of the national Roma strategic framework with monitoring every two years. Roma or pro-Roma CSOs are engaged in monitoring the implementation of the NRSF.

PROMISING PRACTICES

The establishment of the Technical Commission in 2024 has been identified as a promising practice. The Technical Commission was tasked with preparing a report on measures applying the principles of truth, justice, reparation, and non-repetition regarding historical antigypsyism. Created under the framework of the Democratic Memory Law, the Technical Commission brings together experts, institutions, and Roma civil society to assess past injustices and propose structural responses. It marks the first official recognition of historical antigypsyism in Spain and is a foundational step towards institutional accountability, symbolic reparation, and inclusive public memory.

In June 2025, Spain adopted the plan of action for the improvement of employability of the Roma population 2025-2028, comprising 14 targeted measures ranging from personalised labour orientation and dual training with hiring commitments to entrepreneurship support and anti-discrimination campaigns, aimed at supporting 107 000 Roma towards decent employment.[133]

[133] Fundación Secretariado Gitano, *Plan de Empleo para la población gitana (2025-2028)*, 4 June 2025 (reporting on Spain's national employment plan for the Roma population).

Table 10 - France

France	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	The '2020-2030 French strategy in response to the recommendation by the Council of the European Union of 12 March 2021 for Roma equality, inclusion and participation'134 acts as the French National Roma Strategic Framework (NRSF) since 2022.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates	Council of Europe estimates: approximately 300,000 to 500,000 Roma in France (0.62% of the population)[135]
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Interministerial Delegation for Accommodation and Access to Housing (DIHAL)
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP operates within the Interministerial Delegation for Accommodation and Access to Housing (DIHAL),[136] which employs 62 staff members and is responsible for coordinating and monitoring state priorities in housing, including for Roma and other poorly housed populations. The NRCP plays an active role in mainstreaming Roma issues across national and local policies and EU-funded initiatives, notably promoting the inclusion of antigypsyism as an issue in national strategies. It contributes to the National Monitoring Committee for funds overseen by national managing authorities and supports project leaders and promoters by providing guidance and adapting ESF+ eligibility criteria for actions targeting homeless people and residents of informal settlements.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: In January 2023, the Interministerial Delegation to Fight Against Racism, Antisemitism and Anti-LGBT+ Hatred (DILCRAH)[137] launched the national plan to combat racism, antisemitism, and discrimination based on origin 2023 – 2026 (PRADO)[138], explicitly addressing antigypsyism. The plan serves as a key interministerial framework involving all public authorities, in line with the EU Council's 2021 Recommendation on Roma equality, inclusion and participation. Measures include training for public officials, awareness campaigns, support for local initiatives, and a memorial project on the former Montreuil-Bellay internment camp. By May 2025, the monitoring committee had reviewed progress, with 50% of measures implemented. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY**: CSOs acknowledge progress in the official recognition of antigypsyism within PRADO, including the involvement of Roma CSOs in its design and consultation processes. They also welcome training initiatives for civil servants, police officers and magistrates, as well as growing attention to online anti-Roma hate speech in discussions with the NRCP. At the same time, CSOs note that funding specifically dedicated to antigypsyism remains limited and that further efforts could support more systemic and long-term measures. Public opinion surveys continue to indicate high levels of social distance towards Roma, underlining the importance of strengthening monitoring and anti-discrimination mechanisms in public services, education and policing. **ASSESSMENT:** France has made significant strides in combating antigypsyism through the national plan to combat racism, antisemitism, and discrimination (2023 – 2026), which explicitly integrates Roma-specific concerns. Notable accomplishments include the Montreuil-Bellay memorial project and extensive anti-bias training for 700 magistrates	

[134] Available at: https://www.info.gouv.fr/upload/media/content/0001/11.pdf. English version available at: https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/france_national_roma_strategic_framework_en_2020-2030.pdf.
[135] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[136] Available at: https://www.dihal.gouv.fr/.
[137] Available at: https://www.dilcrah.fr/en/.
[138] Available at: https://www.dilcrah.gouv.fr/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/PRADO-2023-2026.pdf.

and 200 police officers. While recorded racist offences increased in 2024, the absence of a dedicated budget for antigypsyism and the lack of formal monitoring indicators remain structural challenges. Future efforts should focus on formalising funding for Roma-led anti-discrimination initiatives and institutionalising qualitative data collection to measure long-term impact.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: The National Consultative Commission on Travellers[139] addresses Traveller issues through consultation with stakeholders, working with the Defender of Rights[140]. At local level, departmental consultative commissions enable Travellers to participate in the design of public policies, particularly during the review of departmental plans. Nationally, social inclusion is promoted through support for associations preventing exclusion, with DIHAL allocating an annual budget of EUR 3.3 million to local associations running social initiatives An additional EUR 472 535 supports two associations — FNASAT[141] and ANGVC[142] — working on housing, access to rights, and combating exclusion and discrimination, as well as academic research through the *École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales* (EHESS) on the preservation of memory related to Traveller communities.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Mediation by Roma and pro-Roma civil society organisations improved Roma access to social services, especially for families in informal settlements, and integrated local strategies were adopted in some cities such as Bordeaux, Nantes and Montpellier.[143] In certain departments, collaborative frameworks between CSOs and public services led to more inclusive anti-poverty practices. However, many Roma continue to be excluded from social rights due to complex administrative procedures, lack of digital literacy, language barriers, and discriminatory practices by local authorities. Roma lacking residency or address documentation are frequently denied access to basic services, while funding remains limited, project-based, and without long-term continuity.

ASSESSMENT: France has made tangible progress in reducing poverty and social exclusion through mediation, targeted national programmes, and integrated local strategies in several cities. However, persistent barriers — including complex administrative procedures, lack of digital literacy, language barriers, discriminatory practices, and insufficient funding — continue to limit Roma access to social rights. Establishing a national enforcement mechanism, simplifying administrative procedures, and moving beyond project-based funding would strengthen France's approach to ensuring more consistent and sustainable progress across territories.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: In recent years, significant progress has been made in involving Travellers and European citizens living in shanty towns in the implementation of policies that affect them. For Travellers, participation is mainly ensured through the National Consultative Commission on Travellers and departmental commissions, particularly during the review of departmental plans. For shanty town residents, the most significant progress has been made under the school mediation programme, with a quarter of mediators having themselves lived or grown up in shanty towns, enabling trust-based relationships with children and families. In 2023 and 2024, DIHAL organised two national meetings bringing together people active in the field — social workers, school and health mediators, team leaders and researchers — to share experiences and mobilise stakeholders around the eradication of informal settlements.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report that participation is largely limited to ' Gens du voyage ' and intra-EU citizens living in slums, leaving the majority of Roma unrepresented. Some progress has been achieved through ANGVC (National Association of Citizens Gens du Voyage) empowerment initiatives, notably training, and through civil society projects such as La Voix des Rroms '144 the Nevi Yag Bari project and PECAO (Peer Education to Counter Antigypsyism Online)145, which seek to better involve Roma youth. CSOs argue that meaningful participation requires more active recognition of Romani identity and support for projects on Romani history, identity and culture. Local initiatives remain geographically isolated, and CSOs lack stable funding.

[139] Available at: https://www.info.gouv.fr/organisation/delegation-interministerielle-a-l-hebergement-et-a-l-acces-au-logement/commission-nationale-consultative-des-gens-du-voyage-4906-presentation.
[140] Available at: https://www.defenseurdesdroits.fr/en.
[141] Available at: https://www.fnasat.asso.fr/.
[142] Available at: https://www.angvc.fr/.
[143] Available at: https://resorption-bidonvilles.dihal.gouv.fr/en.
[144] Available at: https://www.lavoixdesrroms.com/.
[145] Available at: https://ergonetwork.org/projects/pecao/.

ASSESSMENT: France is encouraged to build on existing participation mechanisms by further broadening the involvement of diverse Roma communities in the design, implementation and evaluation of policies affecting them. Existing initiatives involving Travellers, residents of informal settlements and Roma youth provide a basis for strengthening participatory approaches and trust-based engagement at local level. Going forward, continued support for projects promoting Romani history, identity and culture, alongside capacity-building initiatives for Roma and pro-Roma civil society organisations, could contribute to more inclusive participation. Further efforts to ensure continuity, coordination and wider geographical coverage of local initiatives may also support more sustainable and representative engagement across different Roma communities.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: As part of its multi-year anti-poverty strategy and the slum clearance policy steered by the NRCP, the school mediation programme *" Toutes et tous à l'école! "*[146] has been deployed since 2020. The programme plays an essential role in the inclusion and retention of Roma children in the education system, particularly regarding compulsory education enrolment from age three and the transition from primary to secondary education. By 2024 – 2025, 52 mediators were deployed across 17 of France's 101 departments. Following convincing results with Roma children, a similar scheme is being implemented for itinerant families and Travellers.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: School mediation initiatives, financed by the NRCP and implemented by local CSOs, have shown initial promise in bridging access between marginalised communities and mainstream education. Eduscol[147], the official French website for education staff, now includes components on antigypsyism; projects such as Barvalo-MUCEM[148] and the Rivesaltes memorial[149] promote historical awareness; and antigypsyism was formally included in PRADO[150]. However, these efforts remain uneven across regions and implementation contexts. Challenges continue to include administrative procedures related to distance learning authorisation, enrolment practices, classroom placement, limited data on attendance and educational outcomes, and logistical difficulties affecting families experiencing housing instability or displacement.

ASSESSMENT: France is encouraged to build on recent efforts supporting the inclusion and retention of Roma children in education, particularly through the expansion of school mediation initiatives. Access to early childhood education has improved; according to the latest Roma survey (2024), 44% of Roma children in France attend early childhood education, compared to 26% in 2019 (EU: 53%). However, the share of Roma/Travellers aged 20–24 who completed at least upper-secondary education remains at 12%, well below the EU average (32%) and the national average (90%[151]).[152] Going forward, continued expansion of mediation programmes, alongside improved monitoring of attendance and educational outcomes, could help continuity in education and address barriers linked to mobility, housing instability and administrative procedures.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: France has implemented a national programme to support the social and professional inclusion of marginalised communities. For 2021 – 2027, the national ESF+ programme 'Employment, Inclusion, Youth and Skills'[153] funds actions promoting the social integration and socio-professional inclusion of people from marginalised communities, including Traveller populations. The programme supports multidisciplinary accompaniment, outreach, access to rights and services, housing solutions, and educational support, with special attention to children from itinerant populations and those living in shantytowns. Since the programme's launch, departmental councils have published seven calls for projects dedicated to Travellers, representing a total of EUR 1.3

[146] Available at: https://blog.resorption-bidonvilles.dihal.gouv.fr/blog-résorption-bidonvilles/toutes-et-tous-à-lécole-retour-sur-un-événement-donnant-la-parole-aux-premiers-concernés/.
[147] Available at: https://eduscol.education.fr/.
[148] Available at: https://mucem.org/en/expositions/barvalo/.
[149] Available at: https://www.memorialcamprivesaltes.eu/en.
[150] Available at : Plan national de lutte contre le racisme, l'antisémitisme et les discriminations liées à l'origine (2026-2029) .
[151] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code edat_lfse_03), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/edat_lfse_03__custom_22314661/default/table.
[152] Available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/project/2024/roma-s.
[153] Available at: https://www.fse.gouv.fr/.

million in ESF+ funding and an estimated 1,500 people supported.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Local employment initiatives have shown some promise, with project-based pathways developed in coordination between public employment services, associations, and local authorities, employer charters formalising commitments around fair recruitment and decent working conditions, and growing awareness of exploitation risks in the agricultural sector. However, discrimination persists both at the hiring stage and in the way, jobseekers are received by employment services. Local projects remain isolated and experimental, with a lack of national coordination or scaled models offering durable employment integration. Informal middlemen still mediate access to seasonal work, often with exploitative conditions.

ASSESSMENT: France is encouraged to build on existing employment and inclusion initiatives by further strengthening pathways to sustainable labour market participation for Roma and Travellers. In 2024, 39% of Roma/Travellers aged 20 – 64 in France were in paid work, with significantly lower employment rates among Roma women (18%).[154] At the same time, 40% reported discrimination during job searches. Going forward, continued efforts to improve coordination and scalability of local employment initiatives, strengthen anti-discrimination measures and support access to stable employment could help enhance labour market inclusion. Further attention to women's participation, fair recruitment practices and monitoring of employment outcomes may also support more sustainable integration measures.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Two important achievements can be highlighted. The transposition of Directive 2020/2184 (the Drinking Water Directive)[155] into French law introduced the right for every person to access a sufficient daily quantity of drinking water at or near their place of residence[156]. Additionally, health mediation has demonstrated its relevance in reconnecting people excluded from the healthcare system with appropriate care, by addressing individual and systemic barriers that fuel health inequalities. DIHAL organises various commissions and project groups to enhance collaboration and coordination, with programmes developed together with civil society, including NGOs and Roma organisations.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: France's 2020 – 2030 Roma strategy features a dedicated health access component, with health mediation bridging gaps between Roma communities and healthcare, regional studies linking poor health outcomes to housing conditions, and the creation of a dedicated centre addressing administrative barriers to health coverage for inactive EU nationals. However, residents in precarious habitats face widespread lack of access to water (22%), electricity (24%) and sanitation (41%), compounded by proof of residency requirements and delayed access to care under the AME (Aide Médicale d'État)[157]. Forced evictions interrupt medical follow-up and have occurred during active disease screenings. Roma patients report systemic bias, and health mediation remains inconsistently implemented and poorly coordinated across regions.

ASSESSMENT: France is encouraged to build on recent efforts to improve healthcare access for Roma communities, particularly through health mediation, outreach actions and cooperation with civil society organisations. Going forward, strengthening coordination between healthcare, social and housing services could further support continuity of care and access to treatment for people living in precarious conditions. Continued development of health mediation, including more consistent implementation and support structures across regions, may help improve accessibility and trust in healthcare services. Further attention to administrative barriers, living conditions and access to basic services such as water and sanitation could also contribute to more sustainable improvements in health outcomes and healthcare access.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: In recent years, housing and accommodation projects for Travellers have improved in quality, with DIHAL introducing a new call for projects setting requirements for localisation, construction, security and participation. Progress in slum elimination is evident through better coordination among those involved and clearer

[154] European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights – Roma Survey 2024.available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/2025/roma-survey-2024.
[155] Available at: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32020L2184.
[156] Available at: Décret n° 2022-1721 du 29 décembre 2022: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/id/JORFTEXT000046837783.
[157] Available at: https://www.romacivilmonitoring.eu/countries/france/

direction from state services, with most territories now adopting a global approach. More human resources are being mobilised in local authorities, including Marseille, Montpellier, Lyon, Bordeaux and Nantes. Between 2023 and 2025, EUR 18 million was allocated to improving living and housing conditions, supporting around twenty departments and co-financing around sixty associations and services.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Some local authorities have implemented targeted strategies to facilitate housing access and avoid forced evictions. However, only 26 out of 95 departmental schemes comply with their legal obligations; caravans are banned in 96% of zoning documents, and many Roma and Travellers live in a cycle of displacement. [158] Roma settlements frequently lack basic infrastructure, and adapted social housing developments are often grouped together, reinforcing segregation. Intersectoral coordination remains weak and limited data hinders monitoring and accountability.

ASSESSMENT: France is encouraged to build on recent progress in improving housing conditions and coordination mechanisms supporting Travellers and residents of informal settlements. Initiatives supported by DIHAL, including increased financial support for local actors, provide a basis for more integrated housing approaches. Going forward, continued efforts to promote sustainable housing solutions, strengthen coordination between relevant sectors and improve implementation of departmental schemes may lead to greater housing stability and inclusion. Further attention to access to basic infrastructure, monitoring tools and locally adapted housing solutions could also contribute to improving living conditions and reducing situations where Roma are repeatedly displaced.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: The National Consultative Commission for Travellers (CNCGV)[159], a French interministerial body established in December 2015, aims to adapt public policies to the specific needs of the Traveller community, focusing on reception, housing, support and cultural preservation. Composed of representatives from various ministries, elected officials, associations and qualified individuals, it facilitates dialogue between public authorities and civil society organisations. The National Commission for the Elimination of Shanty Towns coordinates efforts to address informal settlements. The NRCP supports national and local associations promoting Roma and Traveller inclusion and rights, with total annual grants of approximately EUR 12 million, maintaining close cooperation with the Defender of Rights and DILCRAH to coordinate awareness campaigns and integrate equal treatment principles into local policies.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Roma and pro-Roma CSOs have limited, largely consultative involvement in the NRSF, with consultations focused on operational rather than strategic matters. No unified cross-sectoral monitoring structure with civil society participation exists, leaving local implementation uneven. CSOs have actively documented evictions and supported victims in filing complaints, though underreporting and lack of trust in police limit effectiveness. The work of the Defender of Rights represents a positive step but remains disconnected from a systemic approach to hate crime monitoring involving Roma stakeholders.

ASSESSMENT: France is encouraged to build on existing institutional structures supporting dialogue and cooperation with Roma and Traveller communities, including the CNCGV and local partnership mechanisms. Continued cooperation between public authorities, civil society organisations and independent bodies may further support coordination and the exchange of expertise on inclusion and equal treatment policies. Going forward, strengthening cross-sectoral coordination and monitoring approaches could contribute to greater coherence in the implementation of inclusion measures across areas such as education, employment, healthcare and housing. Further opportunities to support the participation of Roma and pro-Roma civil society organisations in policy design, implementation and evaluation may also lead to more inclusive and sustainable policy outcomes**.**

PROMISING PRACTICES

The *Résorption-Bidonvilles* online collaborative platform acts as a valuable observatory, providing up-to-date data on shantytowns and squats where European nationals live in mainland France. It enables stakeholders to collaborate, share challenges and good practices, and serves as an institutional memory of slum clearance strategies, with ongoing efforts to mainstream its use among practitioners.[160]

[158] Available at: https://www.romacivilmonitoring.eu/countries/france/
[159] Available at: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/loda/id/JORFTEXT000030621425
[160] Available at: https://app.resorption-bidonvilles.dihal.gouv.fr/connexion.

Integrated local strategies combining housing, employment and education initiatives have been developed in several cities, including Bordeaux, Nantes and Montpellier, where collaborative frameworks between civil society organisations and public services have led to more inclusive anti-poverty practices. These locally driven approaches demonstrate the potential of territorial partnerships in advancing Roma inclusion, even in the absence of systematic national scaling.[161]

[161] Available at: https://www.info.gouv.fr/organisation/delegation-interministerielle-a-l-hebergement-et-a-l-acces-au-logement.

Table 11 - Croatia

Croatia	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	National Plan for Roma Inclusion (2021–2027) and the Action Plans for the Implementation of the National Plan for the Inclusion of Roma (2021-2022 and 2023-2025)
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	For the 2021 census 17 980 self-declared as Roma (0.79% of the population).[162] Council of Europe estimates: approximately 35 000 Roma living in Croatia[163].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Office for Human Rights and the Rights of National Minorities of the Government of the Republic of Croatia (GOHRRNM)
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP is responsible for coordinating and monitoring Roma-related national policies, together with the Government Commission for the Monitoring of the Implementation of the National Plan for Roma Inclusion (NPRI) (the Commission). The Commission comprises of 16 members with equal representation from state authorities and Roma representatives and oversees the implementation of the NPRI during the period 2021-2027. The Commission is led by the Deputy Prime Minister for Social Affairs and Human Rights, while Deputy President Veljko Kajtazi represents the Roma minority in Parliament. The NRCP also acts as the Commission's technical secretariat. The NRCP had a budget of EUR 1 650 000 for 2023-2025 period. ESF+ constitutes the main EU funding source for Roma inclusion measures in Croatia for the 2021-2027 period.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Croatia has implemented three key Roma-inclusion measures under its National Plan for Roma Inclusion. In the period 2023-2025, the Ministry of Justice, Administration and Digital Transformation funded a legal aid programme, supporting 23 projects- including seven Roma-focused initiatives- providing primary legal aid to vulnerable social groups in six counties. Meanwhile, the Ministry of the Interior has integrated anti-discrimination training into police curriculum and runs preventive campaigns (e.g. 'Together Against Hate Speech'the) while collaborating with Slovenia, Hungary, and Italy to combat antigypsyism and hate crime. Additionally, Roma civil society organisations, such as Kali Sara, deliver government-backed advocacy, media, and capacity-building projects, empowering Roma councils, women, and youth nationwide. Together, these targeted programmes improve legal protection, police-Roma relations, and community leadership, aligning with EU anti-discrimination and empowerment objectives. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs report progress in combating discrimination, with the NRCP funding initiatives to address harassment and violence, and the Ministry of the Interior increasing Roma participation in the police. This initiative aims to foster acceptance and reduce misunderstandings between police and Roma and has been supported by strong media coverage of Roma culture and history. However, the Roma community remains the most discriminated against minority, with inadequate penalties failing to deter discriminatory practices. Civil society organisations have called for greater investment to enable legal professionals to provide continuous support to Roma individuals, since lengthy court proceeding, frequent staff changes or cuts of funding for legal assistant NGOs providing legal assistance further hinder justice for individuals. **ASSESSMENT:** Croatia has made progress in addressing antigypsyism and discrimination through targeted legal aid, police training, and Roma civil society engagement. Building on these efforts, further preventive measures - including	

[162] The 2021 census is available at: https://ljudskaprava.gov.hr/nacionalne-manjine/nacionalne-manjine-u-republici-hrvatskoj/romi/371?utm.
[163] Council of Europe estimates of Roma population: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.

strengthening legal support continuity, ensuring adequate deterrents against discriminatory practices, and sustaining police-Roma cooperation - would contribute to more systemic change. As discrimination and hate speech remain significant challenges, consolidating existing initiatives and ensuring their long-term funding and institutional anchoring remains an important consideration going forward.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Measures to accelerate Roma integration largely align with other national strategies, such as plans to combat poverty and promote children's rights. The establishment of the Međimurje community service centre (CPUZ) in 2024 represented a significant achievement. CPUZ offers new social welfare services for children and families at risk, including residential services in three Roma settlements and psychosocial support throughout Međimurje County. It also provides social mentoring for 184 Roma via the National Recovery Plan. In its first year, CPUZ developed social services that had not previously existed in Međimurje County, enhancing support for vulnerable children and families.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: The Action Plan facilitated funding opportunities for Roma civil society organisations through the Office for Cooperation with NGOs, and integrating these activities into its routine operations represented a real progress. Under the UNICEF project 'Guarantee for Every Child', four community centres were completed in Roma settlements in 2024-2025, enhancing local social services, although the planned centre in Osiječko-Baranjska County is yet to be built and requires action from the NRCP. Improvements are still needed in monitoring poverty reduction related to housing, education, and employment under the NRSF. Social exclusion remains a significant problem for Roma in segregated rural settlements, highlighting the need for more frequent public transportation services and reduced costs.

ASSESSMENT: Croatia has made tangible progress through tin establishing CPUZ Međimurje and completing community centres in Roma settlements. To build on these gains, better monitoring of poverty reduction impacts across housing, education, and employment would strengthen the evidence base for future action. Integrating Roma-focused strategies with broader national plans on poverty and children's rights presents an opportunity for a more joined-up approach. Improving access to services in rural settlements, including public transportation, remains important for Roma social inclusion.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: The Croatian government continues to implement policies in support to minorities, including Roma, by increasing funding for cultural, educational, and sports centres (e.g. Zagreb's Roma Library, Uštica's WWII Memorial) and expanding Roma civil society activities. Political participation among Roma has increased, evidenced by high voter turnout and a rise in the number of Roma minority councils (38 councils in 2023 compared to 33 in 2019) and representatives after the 2023 elections. Kali Sara played a significant role in strengthening capacity-building, while high-level political backing (e.g. a Deputy Prime Minister chairing the Roma Inclusion Commission) and rising voter turnout reinforced trust in institutions.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: While no major progress has been made in the past two years, CSOs report consistent implementation of the Action Plan 2023–2025. Roma participation in councils and commissions reflects efforts to include their voices in strategic planning. However, trust in institutions remains low, and greater transparency is needed, particularly in the NRSF Monitoring Commission, all Roma members of which are affiliated with Kali Sara. The appointment process to the NRSF Monitoring Commission has also been delayed, as no new call has been issued following the latest elections.

ASSESSMENT: Croatia has made progress in promoting Roma participation, increased funding is available for Roma civil society and there are a growing number of minority councils and representatives. Strengthening the capacity of Roma councils and representatives would result in more effective engagement in policy processes. Ensuring diverse Roma representation in the NRSF Monitoring Commission and addressing delays in appointing commission members, would contribute to broader ownership and more inclusive governance. Efforts to foster trust between Roma communities and institutions continue to be important.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Central and local funding for educational initiatives has continued to increase, contributing to higher participation in kindergarten, preschool, extracurricular activities, and Boyash Roma language and culture classes. The number of Roma students completing high school and attending university has also risen. Support measures for secondary and higher education will continue due to their positive impact on reducing dropout rates and encouraging educational attainment. At the same time, spatial segregation remains a challenge, and there are still some Roma-only classes. In response, EUR 1.9 million in ESF+ funding has been allocated to support educational desegregation and stronger cooperation between schools and local stakeholders.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report progress in targeting educational desegregation for Roma communities, namely by funding transportation for Roma children to enable them to attend non-segregated schools and developing strategies to desegregate educational departments. However, Roma segregation in education remains a major issue that affects around 40% of Roma students[164]. Challenges include a lack of awareness among Roma families of the effects of segregation, underutilisation of the Roma curriculum due to resource gaps, and insufficient funding mechanisms to facilitate desegregation efforts, highlighting the need for increased community engagement and support for Roma teacher training programmes.

ASSESSMENT: Croatia has made measurable progress in improving Roma education, with increasing participation across all levels and growing financial support available for educational initiatives. Continued investment in early childhood education and care -where participation remains low - and in desegregation measures would strengthen long-term outcomes. Expanding the pool of teachers qualified to teach the Roma curriculum and increasing community awareness on the benefits of desegregated education would further support progress. The ESF+ funding allocated for desegregation presents an important opportunity to address structural barriers in a sustainable way.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: The registered number of unemployed Roma has fallen further. This reduction is in part due to the increase in Roma participation in empowerment activities, including labour market inclusion, activation programmes, and skills development through work competency vouchers. Additional measures to support employment, included on-the-job training, first work experience opportunities, and financial support for those who wish to start their own businesses or by co-financing employers' wage costs and providing support for individuals to gain their first work experience. The Croatian employment service has also implemented support measures.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Civil society highlights that Roma employment gains stem mostly from mainstream schemes, with public works absorbing 90% of funding- yet lacking Roma-specific adaptations. Recent progress reflects labour shortages more than targeted policies. Critical gaps persist: Roma women and NEET youth require urgent, tailored support under the Action Plan, while employer discrimination remains unaddressed. Reviving 'Decade for Roma Inclusion'[45] strategies- like bespoke hiring initiatives-could strengthen impact.For sustainable change, intersectional measures, anti-bias employer engagement, and reinstated proven frameworks should take priority.

ASSESSMENT: Croatia has recorded a fall in the number of Roma registered as unemployed, which has been supported by increased participation in activation and skills development programmes. Greater efforts to extend long-term employment pathways beyond public works programmes would support more sustainable outcomes. Improved data collection on Roma participation in mainstream employment measures could strengthen the evidence base for policy assessment. Addressing the specific needs of Roma women and NEET youth, alongside continued employer engagement on anti-discrimination, remains important.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

[164] Available at: https://www.romacivilmonitoring.eu/countries/croatia/?utm_source=chatgpt.com.

REPORTED PROGRESS: The vaccination rate among Roma children remains high,and efforts have been made by the Croatian Public Health Institute to enable the collection of disaggregated health data for Roma. Central-level measures are largely mainstream, except in education, and there are many targeted measures at regional and local level. Localised health programmes- such as free screenings, reproductive health initiatives, outreach by NGOs- have boosted Roma access, but systemic inequities persist, including an 18% difference in life expectancy between Roma and general population and 50% teen pregnancy rate (2020). [165]Assistance is provided to vulnerable households through government-funded minority organisations. The diverse and dispersed nature of the Roma population in the country makes local measures more efficient and effective compared to central-level initiatives.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: According to CSOs, progress in this sectoral objective has been minimal, with activities largely dependent on EU-funded projects led by the NRCP and planned for late 2025. Improvements are needed in the collection of disaggregated data on Roma to better address health disparities, notably the 10-year gap in life expectancy between Roma and the majority population. The scope of interventions could be broadened, and focus on preventive measures for addiction, and on addressing mental health, physical activity, and nutrition.

ASSESSMENT: Croatia has maintained high vaccination rates among Roma children and developed localized health programmes that have improved access to services. Strengthening the collection of disaggregated health data would allow outcomes to be more clearly assessed and interventions to be more targeted. Broadening the scope of health measures to include addiction prevention, mental health, and nutrition, alongside continued investment in community-driven outreach models, could contribute to more comprehensive and equitable health outcomes for Roma communities.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Croatia invested EUR 5.1 million (2023-2025) in housing legalisation, infrastructure (e.g., water, sanitation), and emergency aid, enabling some Roma families- particularly in Međimurje County- to transition from segregated settlements to mixed communities. While there are no targeted measures for Roma, mainstream measures also benefit a number of Roma families. These tend to be national and local level, targeted at young persons and mostly subsidies for buying of the first house. Although precise data are unavailable, improved employment and educational opportunities have facilitated the relocation of many Roma families from segregated settlements to villages with majority Croat populations, notably in Međimurje County. However, systemic gaps persist, with 69% of Roma categorised as housing-deprived (2020 baseline) and 85% living in overcrowded conditions.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report continued investment in Roma settlements in Croatia, including infrastructure, cultural centres, sports facilities, and community development. However, they note that measures remain focused on improving conditions within segregated settlements, with limited efforts to desegregate or physically integrate Roma into wider communities.

ASSESSMENT: Croatia has invested significantly in housing infrastructure for Roma settlements, contributing to improved living conditions for several families. Developing a more strategic approach to housing - including measures to aid physical integration alongside infrastructure improvements within settlements- could strengthen long-term outcomes. Expanding local capacity to implement housing measures and ensuring that mainstream housing subsidies effectively reach Roma families remains important. Improved data collection on Roma housing conditions would also help to assess progress more clearly against existing baselines.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRCP supports the participation of Roma and pro-Roma civil society in the design, implementation, monitoring, and review of the NRSF, local action plans, and EU funds monitoring committees. Roma CSOs also implement integration measures and lead independent initiatives. The GOHRRNM has supported civil society involvement in local action plans in Zagreb and Rijeka, while operational programmes for the Roma national minority have contributed to policy initiatives in areas such as housing and welfare and informed the preparation of post-2027 Roma policy.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Civil society organisations note that the NRSF's monitoring committee, co-

[165] Available at: Uključivanje Roma u hrvatsko društvo - istraživanje baznihpodataka.pdf.

chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Roma representative Veljko Kajtazi, includes ministry officials and Roma delegates selected via public call. Transparency concerns have arisen over potential conflicts of interest, as many appointees are linked to Kali Sara. Roma representatives also oversee project coordination, with some roles held by Kali Sara staff, raising questions about undue influence. The Ombudsperson's office engages Roma civil society in advisory roles, while non-Roma NGOs employ Roma- often from the Roma Youth Organisation of Croatia- to document discrimination cases.

ASSESSMENT: Croatia has established participatory structures that support Roma civil society involvement in the implementation and monitoring of Roma inclusion policies, including through local action plans and operational programmes for the Roma national minority. Strengthening local capacities, improving the timeliness of data collection and policy follow-up, and ensuring broad and balanced representation within participatory mechanisms could further support transparency and accountability. Continued engagement with Roma civil society, alongside inclusive cooperation between institutions and community organisations, may contribute to more effective and sustainable Roma integration policies.

PROMISING PRACTICES

The Ministry of Justice, Administration and Digital Transformation's primary legal aid programme funds NGOs and law faculties via national calls to ensure nationwide access to justice, particularly for vulnerable groups, including national minorities. Services include legal counselling, rights education, and administrative support.

In 2023–2025, 23 projects were backed, with seven focused on Roma communities across multiple counties. Funding for Roma-specific legal aid rose from EUR 216 955 in 2023 to EUR 283 081 in 2024, reflecting increased support. The initiative prioritises territorial balance and targeted assistance to enhance Roma access to legal protection.[166]

[166] Ministarstvo pravosuđa i uprave Republike Hrvatske - Besplatna pravna pomoć

Table 12 - Italy

Italy	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	Following the previous national Roma, Sinti and Caminanti inclusion strategy 2012-2020, Italy adopted its current National Roma Strategic Framework, entitled 'National Roma and Sinti equality, inclusion and participation strategy (2021-2030)'167.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	Council of Europe estimates: approximatively 150 000 (0.25% of the population)[168]
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	National Office Against Racial Discrimination (UNAR)
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
UNAR, the Italian NRCP, had an annual budget of EUR 2 million and six staff members for the period 2023–2025. It plays a central role in coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the National Roma Strategic Framework (NRSF), linking ministries, regional and local authorities, Roma civil society and EU institutions. UNAR also works to integrate Roma inclusion into broader social policies and programmes through cooperation with ministries and the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI). In addition, it supports local authorities in developing local action plans and contributes to implementation of initiatives such as the National Operational Programme Inclusion (PON Inclusione), PON Equità and Regional Operational Programmes (PORs).	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Improved public recognition of antigypsyism as a systemic barrier to Roma inclusion was reported as a key achievement. Efforts to address institutional bias included training on antigypsyism, media guidelines and monitoring of discriminatory discourse. An online platform trained more than 1 000 officials working in education, policing and healthcare. Awareness raising activities were also expanded, including the 2024 and 2025 editions of the 'Week for the Promotion of Roma Culture and the Fight against Antigypsyism', which involved dozens of activities across the country. Another important initiative was the 2024 'Don't Call Me Gypsy' 169campaign implemented with the Italian Football League (Serie A). Institutional reforms, legal support and the involvement of Roma representatives in policy design were also further strengthened. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** Civil society organisations (CSOs) note that Italy has advanced antigypsyism awareness through UNAR's 'two weeks of action', cultural events, and the first municipal celebration of International Roma and Sinti Day, with growing CSO participation. However, hostility persists, political and legal progress is limited, and socio-economically disadvantaged groups are often mislabelled in official language, highlighting the need for non-discriminatory targeted policies. **ASSESSMENT**: Italy has taken important steps to increase public awareness of antigypsyism through institutional dialogue, training initiatives and stronger involvement by Roma and Sinti representatives in public debate. Italy could further strengthen its approach by expanding policies that address socio-economic disadvantage in an inclusive and non-stigmatising manner. Continuing to develop political and legal frameworks, alongside sustained cooperation between institutions and civil society, may help translate growing awareness into more systemic and long-term change. Further support for awareness raising, training and monitoring initiatives could also contribute to reducing persistent	

[167] Available at: https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/italy_national_roma_strategic_framework_2021-2030.pdf.
[168] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[169]Available at: https://www.fcinternews.it/news/dont-call-me-gipsy-lega-serie-a-e-unar-insieme-per-contrastare-l-antiziganismo-951566.

prejudice and strengthening equal treatment in practice.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Although poverty reduction is not addressed as a separate objective, IT's NRSF approaches the issue across several areas, including education, employment, health, housing and measures combating antigypsyism. One of the most significant achievements has been the reduction in the number of people living in segregated settlements, from around 30 000 in 2015 to approximately 15 000 in 2025, by providing targeted support for the most vulnerable Roma communities. Key initiatives such as ACCEDER-E[170], focused on access to employment, and SALUTE[171], to improve health outreach, have provided essential services and support pathways out of extreme poverty. These efforts have also been complemented by broader national anti-poverty measures, including the Universal Single Allowance.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report the provision of poverty support to Roma and vulnerable families through the Universal Single Allowance and Inclusion Allowance, The procedures for applying for these allowances are accessible, and do not involve discriminatory conditions. However, reliance on welfare alone limits long-term autonomy, and civil society involvement in supporting Roma access to these measures remains sporadic, highlighting the need for targeted employment policies and stronger CSO engagement.

ASSESSMENT: Having successfully halved the number of segregated settlements, Italy could now transition from pilot initiatives like ACCEDER-E to structural, long-term scaling within the 2028-2034 programming cycle. To resolve persistent monitoring gaps, the NRCP should implement integrated financial reporting and define clear quantitative targets, supported by the recently strengthened ISTAT-UNAR data collection mechanisms. Ultimately, dismantling systemic antigypsyism across all public institutions remains key for shifting from welfare reliance to true economic autonomy.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: The key achievement is the consolidation of the Piattaforma Nazionale Rom e Sinti, (the 'Platform') coordinated by UNAR, which has fostered dialogue, empowerment, and networking among Roma and Sinti CSOs through biannual meetings. It has supported a new generation of socially integrated, academically trained Roma/Sinti activists challenging stereotypes and addressing issues such as Roma Holocaust memory, gender-based violence, and antigypsyism. By 2025, the Platform had evolved into a digital '2.0' model with a CSO coordination group, a Consulta of Roma and Sinti communities' representatives, and a youth-led Forum (the 'Forum'), ensuring structured participation.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs underline that progress on Roma participation in Italy remains limited. Roma CSOs are few, fragmented, and often lack the capacity to access funding or manage sustainable projects, restricting their influence on policy and initiatives. Over the past two years, Roma CSOs and representatives have had little say in defining funding priorities, with UNAR acting as the main spokesperson. The Platform and Forum are designed to facilitate dialogue and empowerment, but they remain largely inactive and underutilised.

ASSESSMENT: Italy has strengthened institutional dialogue with Roma and Sinti communities by consolidating the Piattaforma Nazionale Rom e Sinti. The Platform has supported networking, empowerment, and the emergence of a new generation of Roma and Sinti activists, while its 2025 digital "2.0" model could further expand structured participation through a coordination group, community consultation body, and youth forum. However, Roma CSOs remain fragmented and often lack the capacity and resources to access funding or influence policy effectively. Going forward, Italy should strengthen support for Roma-led organisations, ensure that they are more involved in setting funding priorities, and make fuller use of participatory structures to support sustained dialogue, representation, and policy impact.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

[170] Available at: https://www.invitalia.it/incentivi-e-strumenti/accedere.
[171] Available at: https://www.infosaluteromesinti.it/.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: The launch of the 'Project for the Inclusion and Integration of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Children' (the 'Project') marked a major development for Roma education in Italy. It was set up under the EUR 40 million National Programme for Inclusion and the Fight Against Poverty 2021–2027172, and is aligned with the EU Child Guarantee. The Project seeks to address structural inequalities affecting Roma, Sinti and Caminanti children through intercultural mediation, cooperation with Roma CSOs, support for early childhood education, and the inclusion of Roma history and culture in school curricula. Implemented in more than 100 municipalities, it promotes stronger links between schools, families and communities and supports a more inclusive and culturally sensitive approach to education.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSO acknowledged the progress made with the launch of the Project in promoting the inclusion of Roma, Sinti, and Caminanti children and adolescents. Actions have focused on fostering intercultural schools, promoting integrated and multidisciplinary approaches, and ensuring stability in social, educational, and health interventions. Nevertheless, CSOs note that a significant number of Roma children do not attend kindergarten, resulting in cognitive, language, and development gaps, which can be exacerbated by biases, which in turn lead to misdiagnoses and further stigmatisation. Strengthening teacher training and parental awareness is also essential to ensure genuine inclusion.

ASSESSMENT: Italy allocated 591 million EUR through the 'National Programme School and skills 2021-2027' to quality and inclusive education and training systems on the whole territory, addressing also early childhood education and care. More specifically, the programme tackles child poverty with about 162 million EUR. Although these measures are not targeted exclusively to Roma people only, they are inclusive by design and particular attention is paid to vulnerable groups, including Roma children.

While the mainstreaming of inclusive principles has been successful, persistent systemic antigypsyism and subtle forms of exclusion within school cultures remain critical barriers. To consolidate the gains it has made, Italy is encouraged to scale its co-designed community projects and finalise the integration of Roma history and culture into national curricula, ensuring that Roma students also have the opportunity to be advocates for safe, democratic learning environments.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: The ACCEDER-E programme, co-funded by the ESF under PON Inclusione, successfully improved access to vocational training and employment for disadvantaged individuals, particularly Roma, Sinti and Caminanti communities. Its effectiveness was due to tailored training pathways, strong cooperation among institutions and civil society, and the use of cultural mediators familiar with the obstacles faced by Roma, Sinti and Caminanti communities, and supported by Invitalia's[173]operational capacity. Several funded projects that were funded reported employment rates in Italy above 25–30% within 3–6 months following interventions, indicating good alignment with the 2025 target (baseline: 10%; 2029 target: 50%).

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight that efforts to promote Roma employment remain limited. They note the conclusion of the 'ACCEDERE-E' pilot project (2022–2023) and the lack of clear indicators to measure Roma participation in mainstream employment policies. Many Roma also face legal and administrative barriers, including lack of documentation or residence permits, which restricts access to formal employment. CSOs also underline the high percentage (90%) of Roma in monoethnic settlements working without regular contracts[174], which highlights the urgent need for targeted interventions such as skills recognition, vocational training, support for small businesses, and pathways to stable and formal employment.

ASSESSMENT: Going forward, Italy could build on ESF+ investments and programmes such as 'ACCEDER-E' to further strengthen pathways to employment and social inclusion for Roma communities. Continued efforts to address structural barriers, including discrimination, administrative obstacles and labour market exclusion, may help improve access to stable and sustainable employment opportunities. The significant ESF+ resources allocated to education, employment, social inclusion and civil society initiatives constitutes an important basis for expanding targeted support,

[172] Available at: https://pninclusione21-27.lavoro.gov.it/.
[173] Available at: https://www.invitalia.it/en/who-we-are.
[174] Istat data, April 2025. Available at: https://www.istat.it/comunicato-stampa/occupati-e-disoccupati-dati-provvisori-aprile-2025.

particularly in Southern IT. Further developing of monitoring tools and community-based approaches could also result in more effective assessment of outcomes and help tailor future interventions to the needs of Roma communities.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The 'Salute Rom e Sinti'175 project (the 'Project'), led by UNAR and Università Cattolica, assessed access to healthcare among Roma and Sinti communities in Italy and identified persistent barriers, including discrimination and limited use of health services. Under PN Inclusione 2021–2027[176], the Project is being expanded to additional regions while local support mechanisms have been strengthened. An important component of the Project is the training of Roma health mediators to improve communication, advocacy and health literacy within communities. A 2024 pilot study identified a life expectancy gap of 7–15 years compared with the general population, which was linked to housing conditions, geographic isolation and difficulties accessing services. By combining research, outreach and mediator training, the project provides an important model for more inclusive healthcare policies.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs criticize the lack of significant improvements in Roma access to health and social services during the reporting period, with key obstacles remaining unaddressed such as antigypsyism, lack of cultural mediation, and legal or administrative barriers. They also emphasize that while the NRSF proposes measures such as training for social workers, the provision of cultural mediation, legal regularisation, and social policies tailored to individual and family needs, these measures remain vague and are not implemented in a specific and structured way, leaving systemic challenges largely unresolved.

ASSESSMENT: Italy could build on existing EU and national initiatives by further strengthening integrated socio-healthcare approaches that address both medical needs and the broader social determinants of health affecting Roma and Sinti communities. Continuing to develop research-informed policies, supported by anonymised and voluntary data collection, may help improve the targeting and effectiveness of healthcare interventions. Expanding cooperation between health, social and local services could also result in more coordinated and sustainable responses. At the same time, further efforts to strengthen access to essential social assistance services and reduce regional disparities in service provision may help ensure more equitable support for Roma communities across the country.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The consolidation of housing transition projects, funded through ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) PON 'Metro' and municipal resources, marked a major step towards overcoming mono-ethnic settlements. These initiatives combined personalised pathways for Roma and Sinti families with a shift away from the misleading "nomad" label, helping to reduce stigma and promote stable, long-term housing solutions. Several Italian regions (e.g. Emilia-Romagna, Calabria and Sardinia) and metropolitan cities (e.g. Rome, Milan and Naples) allocated their own resources and ERDF funds to support housing inclusion, often in partnership with CSOs during project implementation. The National Strategy 2021-2030 emphasises participatory planning and local governance to ensure sustainable housing transitions.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge that Italian regions such as Puglia and Calabria have invested significant amounts in housing inclusion for Roma and Sinti, with civil society supporting project implementation. While progress has been made towards structural housing solutions, long-standing ghettoisation persists, especially in Naples, Abruzzo, and Calabria. UNAR's coordination is needed to address mono-ethnic settlements and promote lasting integration.

ASSESSMENT: ERDF supports social and affordable housing in Italy and does so mainly through investments in improving energy efficiency and renovating or developing social housing. In some regions, such as Trento, these investments have recently been further increased. Most housing measures, however, are not specifically targeted at Roma or other vulnerable groups but are implemented as broader social housing initiatives. As a result, Roma may benefit indirectly where they fall within the eligible target groups. Ongoing challenges include addressing the specific needs of Sinti micro-areas, which are ften organised around small family communities, and informal settlements of

[175] Available at: https://www.infosaluteromesinti.it/.
[176] Available at: https://pninclusione21-27.lavoro.gov.it/.

Roma, Sinti and other marginalised groups, which require coordinated and inclusive local planning approaches.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: The Italian NRCP has formalised Roma civil society participation in policy processes, aligning with the EU Roma Framework and Italy's NRSF. Engagement channels include the National Roma Platform, thematic working groups, local and regional action plans ('PAL' and 'PAR', respectively) and EU-funded initiatives such as PON Inclusione and AMIF. Roma organisations contribute to shaping policy design, implementation and monitoring, and their activities include shadow reporting, which ensures that their priorities guide inclusion, anti-discrimination and access to services. The NRCP combines mainstream anti-discrimination measures with targeted PAL/PAR plans to address housing, education and health gaps, aiming to build a network of inclusive cities and regions. Between 2023–2025, it strengthened cooperation with equality bodies, supported ISTAT surveys, and launched the PARI platform for public sector training.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight that during the first NRSF monitoring cycle Roma and pro-Roma CSOs were involved in its drafting, but that they did not subsequently participate in implementing it in any structured way. To date, only the CSO 'Associazione 21 Luglio' has monitored the NRSF, carrying out press analysis, formal requests to authorities, and periodic site visits. No other associations are reported to have engaged in similar oversight.

ASSESSMENT: Building on the existing participatory structures established under the NRSF, Italy could further strengthen the role of Roma and Sinti civil society in the implementation and monitoring of inclusion policies at national, regional and local levels. Expanding monitoring and oversight capacities beyond a single organisation may help support broader community engagement and a more diverse evidence base. Continued efforts to strengthen coordination between national and territorial authorities, alongside sustainable support for Roma civil society, could further enhance the effectiveness and continuity of existing initiatives. Going forward, these developments may contribute to more inclusive governance structures and help translate participation mechanisms into long-term and measurable outcomes.

PROMISING PRACTICES

The ISTAT-UNAR 'Abitare in Transizione'177 surveys- covering municipalities over 15 000- delivered Italy's first national data on Roma and Sinti housing, exposing challenges and effective inclusion practices. This evidence-based approach, combined with participatory co-design via PALs and PARs, offers a scalable, sustainable model for housing inclusion.

The initiative to reject the term 'nomads' represented a critical breakthrough, as it reduced stigma and enabled long-term housing solutions. The initiative proves how systematic data and community collaboration can tangibly improve living conditions and social integration for Roma and Sinti populations.

[177] Available at: https://www.istat.it/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Abitare-in-transizione-F.pdf.

Table 13 - Cyprus

Cyprus	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	The National Roma Strategic Framework (2021-2030) (NRSF) integrates Roma inclusion into mainstream social policy and covers five areas: education, employment, housing, health and social support. Its horizontal goals are equality, inclusion and participation.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	According to Council of Europe estimates, approximately 1 250 Roma live in Cyprus (0.11% of the population)[178]. Under the 1960 Constitution, Roma are included in official statistics as part of the Turkish Cypriot community rather than as a separate ethnic minority, creating a data gap.
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	The Social Welfare Services Department (Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare)
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP is responsible for coordinating and monitoring implementation of the NRSF. It facilitates inter-ministerial cooperation through a monitoring committee composed of representatives from key ministries, including Education, Health, Interior, Justice, Labour, and Transport. The committee is chaired by the Director General of the Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare. The NRCP also represents Cyprus at EU-level meetings in coordination with the National Roma Platform. Currently, one staff member within the Social Welfare Services Department is assigned to coordinate NRCP activities, supported by stakeholder representatives participating in the monitoring committee.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Cyprus reported that antigypsyism has been addressed through broader anti-racism and human rights initiatives. The National Strategy for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights[179] includes Roma among its target groups. In addition, the Code of Conduct against Racism and Guide for Managing and Recording Racist Incidents[180] is implemented in schools, providing guidance for preventing and addressing racist incidents and promoting awareness of Roma culture, language and history and the Roma Holocaust among students. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs report some progress in the implementation of anti-racism policies in schools, notably through Cyprus' Code of Conduct against Racism and Guide for Managing and Recording Racist Incidents. At the same time, CSOs highlight the need for stronger recognition and action against antigypsyism. The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)[181] has recommended reinforcing measures to prevent and prosecute hate speech and hate crime and improving the effectiveness of equality bodies, noting that these shortcomings affect Roma as well as other groups. **ASSESSMENT:** Cyprus could further strengthen efforts to address discrimination and promote equality by improving recognition of and enforcement related to antigypsyism. Continuing to develop mechanisms to prevent and address hate speech and hate crime, alongside a reinforced role for equality bodies, may result in more effective responses. Addressing gaps in monitoring and data collection on anti-Roma incidents would also contribute to a more comprehensive evidence base. Together, these steps could improve the overall framework for protecting Roma communities and other groups affected by discrimination.	
REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION	

[178] Statistics available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[179] Member States' best practices on the Charter | European e-Justice Portal
[180] Available at: https://naos.risbo.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Cyprus-antiracism-code.pdf.
[181] Available at: https://www.coe.int/en/web/european-commission-against-racism-and-intolerance

REPORTED PROGRESS: Cyprus reported that efforts have been strengthened to reduce poverty and social exclusion of the most vulnerable people of the population, including Roma. No specific achievement for this objective was reported.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note that the Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI) Law 109(I)/2014[182] has established a national safety net, offering forms of support such as a housing allowance and connecting beneficiaries with activation services through the Public Employment Service. On the other hand, there is a lack of Roma-specific monitoring of poverty alleviation because national anti-poverty measures do not distinguish outcomes for Roma households, and this makes systematic tracking difficult. Access barriers persist, particularly for vulnerable families facing difficulties with digital procedures, documentation and debt, pointing to the need for targeted outreach in Roma communities.

ASSESSMENT: Cyprus is encouraged to continue promoting the inclusion of Roma communities, including through relevant social and employment initiatives where appropriate. Strengthening monitoring systems and facilitating access to support, including by addressing administrative and information barriers, could further benefit Roma families. Targeted outreach may also help to ensure that available support reaches those in need.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: The key achievement reported by Cyprus was the close collaboration between government and non-governmental stakeholders on Roma-related issues, facilitated by the establishment of the Committee for monitoring the implementation of the National Roma Strategic Framework (the Committee for monitoring the NRSF), which united all relevant parties in cooperative efforts.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs welcome the Committee for monitoring the NRSF and suggest boosting meaningful participation by Roma representatives in NRSF planning, implementation and evaluation processes, with ECRI advocating for increased involvement across anti-racism and inclusion policies.

ASSESSMENT: Cyprus is encouraged to continue improving collaboration with both governmental and non-governmental stakeholders on Roma issues. The Committee for monitoring the NRSF is a positive development and has united relevant parties. To further strengthen these efforts, Roma participation in planning and implementing anti-racism and inclusion policies should be increased, to ensure that their voices are central to decision-making processes.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Cyprus did not report any specific achievements. The Ministry of Education, Sport, and Youth continues to implement measures to address the needs of Roma students. An important challenge remains the high numbers of early school leavers, disengaged students and students at risk of dropping out, including Roma students.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs welcomed some targeted measures concentrated in Limassol and the Code of Conduct against Racism and Guide for Managing and Recording Racist Incidents[183]. They also noted that the introduction of Roma-specific targets and indicators could help strengthen the collection of evidence. The absence of system-wide monitoring and permanent mediators' limits sustainability.

ASSESSMENT: Cyprus is encouraged to continue implementing targeted measures to support Roma students, particularly those who are disengaged or at risk of leaving school early. While existing initiatives provide a useful basis for action, further efforts to improve data collection and strengthen monitoring could help to track progress more efficiently, adjust policies accordingly and inform future action.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

[182] Ο Περί Ελάχιστου Εγγυημένου Εισοδήματος και Γενικότερα περί Κοινωνικών Παροχών Νόμος του 2014 - 109(I)/2014.
[183] Available at: https://naos.risbo.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Cyprus-antiracism-code.pdf.

REPORTED PROGRESS: Cyprus did not report any specific achievements. The Public Employment Service (PES) continues to support jobseekers, including Roma, by providing job search and placement services, guidance, counselling and referrals to training programmes and vacancies. For vulnerable unemployed persons, specialised services are provided through individualised action plans. The Welfare Benefit Management Service[184] has continued to help beneficiaries of the guaranteed minimum income (GMI) into work. The Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance is supportive of training programmes designed to help participants gain work experience and new skills.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs reported that improved data collection and monitoring of outcomes for Roma could lead to better assessment of the impact of the employability measures.

ASSESSMENT: Employment support in Cyprus is primarily provided via mainstream measures, which also cover Roma jobseekers. Cyprus is encouraged to continue these efforts, while paying particular attention to the outreach and effective inclusion of vulnerable groups, including Roma. Strengthening data collection and monitoring of outcomes could further support a better understanding of the impact of existing measures and help inform future policy development.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Cyprus did not report any specific new achievements. The Ministry of Health continues to implement the National Health Scheme (GESY), with a view of improving the quality and accessibility of healthcare. In parallel, the Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare provides social support, including social benefits through the Social Welfare Services and the Welfare Benefit Management Service.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs noted that the Universal health coverage (GESY) provides access to healthcare, including income-based protections, and that school health services support children and adolescents in public schools. However, they highlighted language and system-navigation barriers, as well as the lack of Roma-specific health data, which makes it difficult to effectively monitor access and outcomes.

ASSESSMENT: In Cyprus, health issues are primarily governed using universal frameworks, which provide the basis for access to healthcare services. Cypru is encouraged to continue with the efforts outlined above, while paying attention to potential barriers faced by vulnerable groups, including Roma, such as language and system-navigation challenges. Strengthening data collection could further improve understanding of the issues around healthcare access and help to inform targeted responses where needed.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Cyprus did not report any specific achievement. The Welfare Benefit Management Service continues to provide benefits through the GMI (see above), including housing, care for emergency needs, and disability support, which are available to individuals in need, including Roma with Cypriot citizenship.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs noted that housing support for vulnerable households, including Roma, is mainly provided through mainstream social policy instruments and welcomed the discontinuation of the prefab settlement in Paphos. At the same time, they highlighted the need to further improve housing conditions and avoid segregated solutions. They also pointed to the lack of Roma-specific housing data and concerns that growing housing needs of families are not always adequately addressed.

ASSESSMENT: Housing in Cyprus is primarily addressed through mainstream social policy instruments, including income support and housing-related benefits. Cyprus is encouraged to continue these efforts, while up-scaling long-term affordable rental desegregated housing stock for marginalised groups including Roma. The NRSF aims to target the needs of Roma with interventions in various areas, including housing; however, it falls short in providing clear and measurable Roma-specific housing indicators. Strengthening data collection and monitoring could further support a better understanding of housing conditions and help inform targeted responses where needed.

[184] Available at: https://www.wbas.dmsw.gov.cy.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY
REPORTED PROGRESS: Cyprus reported that the Cyprus Roma Association is involved in the implementation and monitoring of the NRSF and local action plans. They also assist victims in reporting hate crimes and hate speech. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY**: CSOs reported that Roma and pro-Roma NGOs had limited involvement in the design of the NRSF. While the **C**ommittee on the Progress of the NRSF supports coordination of implementation, their role within it remains mainly consultative, without formal involvement in decision-making, monitoring or evaluation. **ASSESSMENT:** Cyprus provide a basis for cooperation with Roma civil society, including in the implementation of the NRSF. Cyprus is encouraged to further strengthen the participation of Roma and pro-Roma organisations, particularly in the design, implementation and monitoring of policies, including through more structured and inclusive arrangements. This could support broader engagement in areas such as hate crime and hate speech monitoring, as well as contribute to more effective inclusion efforts overall.
PROMISING PRACTICES
A promising practice is the set of targeted measures implemented by the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth to support the inclusion of Roma pupils in public schools. These measures aim to ensure equal access to education and include the employment of Turkish Cypriot and bilingual teachers to address language barriers, training for teachers on teaching Greek as a second language, and initiatives encouraging the participation of Roma pupils in school activities. Additional support, such as free meals in voluntary all-day schools and language courses for parents, further contributes to improving Roma children's participation and integration in the education system.

Table 14 - Latvia

Latvia	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	The Plan for the Implementation of the Roma Strategic Framework for 2022-2023 (NRSF 2022-2023) was implemented and in 2024 the continuation of the NRSF was approved - the Plan for the Implementation of Measures within the Roma Strategic Framework for 2024-2027 (the NRSF 2024-2027)[185].
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia, 2024 data: 4 630 (0.3% of the population).[186] Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs, 2024 data: 6 441.[187] Council of Europe estimates: approximately 12 500 (0.56% of the population).[188]
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	The Ministry of Culture, Cohesive Society Policy Department
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP is responsible for coordinating, monitoring, developing and evaluating Roma inclusion policy measures. As Roma inclusion is a horizontal policy area in Latvia, sectoral ministries, including those responsible for education, welfare, health and economics, share responsibility within their respective areas. The Ministry of Culture also implements the Latvian Roma Platform[189] and participates as a full member of the Monitoring Committee for EU funds and programmes.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Latvia reported modest but steady progress in improving public attitudes towards Roma, including more positive perceptions of Roma as co-workers and neighbours. This progress was made thanks to the by awareness-raising and informative activities organised by the *Latvian Roma Platform* projects, annual state budget support to Roma NGOs for cultural and commemorative events, and initiatives arranged by the Ombudsman's Office[190] Activities included publications in national media, a television and social media campaign, the publication of the book *Roma in Latvia*[191], exhibitions on Roma heritage, and seminars for teachers and social workers on Roma history and genocide remembrance. However, no specific actions were taken to analyse or address hate crime or hate speech against Roma. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs underline that the measures implemented so far have not been sufficient to significantly improve public attitudes towards Roma. They stress that more targeted action is needed to address antigypsyism and discrimination, including measures to analyse hate speech and hate crime and to better understand the situation of Roma in areas such as employment and education. **ASSESSMENT**: Latvia has made modest but steady progress in improving public attitudes, particularly as regards Roma as co-workers and neighbours, supported by cultural and awareness-raising initiatives. It has also established an evidence base with targets for 2027 to further reduce negative perceptions. However, challenges persist, as a significant share of the population continues to view Roma as the group the most discriminated against. Going forward, efforts could focus on complementing awareness-raising with more systematic monitoring of hate speech and hate crime.	

[185] Available at: https://likumi.lv/ta/id/354561.
[186] Statistics available at: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/fizisko-personu-registra-statistika-2024gada.
[187] Statistics available at: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/lv/media/11043/download?attachment.
[188] Statistics available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[189] Available at: Latvian Roma Platform | Kultūras ministrija.
[190] Available at: https://www.tiesibsargs.lv/en/homepage/.
[191] Available at: https://www.km.gov.lv/en/media/52212/download.

Addressing gaps in data collection in ethnicity in education and health, and ensuring sustainable national funding for civil society monitoring, would help to make anti-discrimination measures more targeted, measurable and effective.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Latvia does not report separate achievements under this objective, as relevant measures are addressed under other policy areas.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note that poverty and social exclusion remain serious concerns for many Roma families. They highlight the need for stronger targeted measures to improve Roma access to social services and social protection, and for enhanced professional capacity of social workers. They also underline the importance of building trust-based cooperation between municipal services, Roma mediators and Roma communities.

ASSESSMENT: In Latvia, the issue of social inclusion is mainly addressed through mainstream policies complemented by local-level support. LV is encouraged to strengthen targeted measures to improve access to social services and social protection, while reinforcing cooperation between municipal services and Roma communities.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Latvia reported that Roma representatives had been involved in the Roma Advisory Council[192] and in strategic planning processes. Within the Latvian Roma Platform[193], capacity-building activities, regional training courses, workshops, mentorship and support for local initiatives were provided for Roma youth and women. Regional NGO centres also contributed to strengthening the capacity of Roma communities. Roma mediators continued to play an important role in building trust between Roma communities and public institutions.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Roma NGOs point out that many support programmes remain practically inaccessible due to limited capacity, a lack of experienced staff, and insufficient funding to implement initiatives effectively. They also highlight a lack of motivation to apply for funding in the absence of stable and predictable support. Civil society organisations stress the need to establish a dedicated support mechanism and ensure long-term funding for Roma NGOs, enabling them to operate sustainably, preserve cultural heritage and represent community interests. They also emphasise that Roma initiatives should be discussed more systematically and endorsed within the NRSF framework to strengthen engagement among Roma stakeholders.

ASSESSMENT: Latvia has taken steps to strengthen Roma participation by involving Roma representatives in advisory structures and capacity-building activities. Latvia is encouraged to build on these efforts by boosting the effective role of Roma stakeholders in policymaking and by providing more accessible and sustainable support for Roma civil society.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Progress by reported Latvia in Roma education included a measurable reduction in the share of Roma children without primary education, and a fall in the number of children leaving school early. The proportion of Roma with completed primary education increased from 34% in 2015 to 39.4% in 2023[194]. These improvements were achieved thanks to programmes to prevent early school leaving, cooperation between municipalities, schools and Roma families, early intervention measures, the work of Roma mediators, teacher training and individualised support for students.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight ongoing challenges in ensuring equal access to education, particularly related to language barriers and the need for more consistent and targeted support measures. They stress the importance of strengthening support mechanisms, including the role of Roma teacher assistants, and improving communication between schools, students and families.

ASSESSMENT: Education in LV has benefited from targeted support measures and improved cooperation with Roma

[192] Available at: https://www.km.gov.lv/lv/konsultativa-padome-0.
[193] Available at: https://www.km.gov.lv/en/latvian-roma-platform.
[194] Statistics available at: https://www.km.gov.lv/lv/media/49371/download?attachment.

families. LV is encouraged to continue these efforts, including by strengthening inclusive education measures and ensuring equal access and quality support for Roma students.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: Latvia reported improvements in Roma employment patterns, including a reduction in long-term unemployment and increased participation in labour market initiatives. The State Employment Agency continued to provide personalised support to Roma jobseekers. In 2024, 292 Roma were registered as having participated in career counselling, and 157 unemployed Roma found work. Roma mediators also assisted unemployed Roma to access employment services at local level.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Civil society organisations emphasise the need to strengthen targeted employment measures for Roma, including by improving access to lifelong learning and skills development opportunities. They also underline the importance of addressing discrimination in the labour market and providing more effective support for long-term unemployed Roma, including through tailored services at municipal level.

ASSESSMENT: In Latvia, employment issues are addressed using mainstream labour market measures. Latvia is encouraged to strengthen targeted support for Roma jobseekers, including by improving access to training and by implementing measures to address barriers to sustainable employment.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Latvia reported the launch of Roma mediator services in municipalities, which have improved access to healthcare and social services, helped build trust between Roma communities and service providers and represents as a key development. In addition, the Ministry of Health organised public health awareness activities, including campaigns and seminars on health-related topics such as sexual and reproductive health and addiction prevention.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs reports that progress cannot be measured due to the absence of Roma-specific social service measures under the NRSF, except in Ventspils, where a Roma mediator provides health promotion services. Improvements could include culturally-tailored sexual/reproductive health education (addressing low Roma engagement), NRSF-funded studies on social service accessibility, and training for social workers to enable them to better assist Roma in navigating support systems, thereby ensuring clear, practical guidance on accessing services.

ASSESSMENT: In Latvia, healthcare services have been improved by community-based support measures, including the use of Roma mediators. Latvia is encouraged to continue and strengthen these efforts, including by introducing more targeted health interventions and improving access to healthcare services for Roma.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: LV has made progress in establishing comprehensive policy frameworks and funding mechanisms, primarily through the social housing renovation and new social housing construction programme[195] targeting vulnerable groups.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs did not report on this objective.

ASSESSMENT: In Latvia, access to housing has been strengthened through policy and funding measures targeting vulnerable groups, including Roma. LV is encouraged to continue these efforts, including by ensuring that Roma benefit effectively from these measures and have access to adequate and affordable housing.

[195] Available at: https://www.em.gov.lv/en/article/funding-available-municipalities-renovation-and-construction-social-housing.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRES: Progress has been made in strengthening coordination and stakeholder involvement in Roma inclusion policies, including the Roma Council[196]. The NRSF 2024-2027 was developed through an interinstitutional working group involving key ministries, the Ombudsman's Office, and Roma and pro-Roma CSOs. The Ministry of Culture, as NRCP, continues to coordinate implementation across sectors and levels of governance in cooperation with public authorities and NGOs.

Capacity-building activities under the Latvian Roma Platform, including training for mediators and support for Roma youth and women, have strengthened civil society participation and local engagement. Cooperation with the Ombudsman's Office and the expansion of number of Roma mediators have further improved outreach and institutional links with Roma communities.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: According to CSOs, the NRSF 2024–2027 working group brought together cross-sectoral stakeholders, including ministries and civil society organisations. However, the potential of the Roma Council to influence policymaking remains underused. CSOs also report that Roma and pro-Roma organisations face challenges in accessing EU-funded projects and that their involvement remains limited in practice. In addition, Roma data remains fragmented and largely qualitative, limiting the opportunities to monitor progress.

ASSESSMENT: Latvia has established coordination mechanisms for Roma inclusion involving national authorities, civil society and other stakeholders, and has taken steps to strengthen cross-sectoral cooperation in developing the NRSF. Latvia is encouraged to further strengthen effective participation by Roma stakeholders in policymaking and implementation, including by improving the role of existing consultation structures. Improving access by Roma and pro-Roma organisations to funding opportunities could result in greater engagement at all levels. Strengthening data collection and integrating available evidence into monitoring frameworks would further support more effective and evidence-based policy development.

PROMISING PRACTICE

Under the NRSF 2022-2023, the EU-funded Latvian Roma Platform delivered key initiatives to boost Roma inclusion. These included recruiting seven municipal Roma mediators, improving access to social services, organising skills workshops for Roma women/youth (e.g. Sāre Khetane youth projects), civil society training and anti-antigypsyism campaigns. Those involved included Roma CSOs, regional support centres, and non-Roma advocacy groups, blending education, cultural awareness and community empowerment.

[196] Available at: https://www.km.gov.lv/en/advisory-council.

Table 15 - Lithuania

Lithuania	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	Lithuania is implementing its Action Plan for Roma Inclusion 2030.[197] It follows the seven EU objectives and includes an additional focus on Roma culture and intercultural dialogue.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	Council of Europe estimates: approximately 3000 (0.09% of the population)[198]
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP has an annual budget of approximately EUR 225 000 (2023-2025) and is staffed by one full-time coordinator responsible for overseeing the implementation of the NRSF. While not directly involved in designing social inclusion policies or monitoring EU funds, the NRCP plays a coordinating role across relevant stakeholders.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Lithuanian's first criminal conviction for discrimination against Roma in service provision in 2024 represented a significant milestone for the country. Legal support has been strengthened by the EU-funded 'Lithuanian Roma Platform – Going Local'[199], which provides regular legal consultations and court representation for victims. Awareness-raising efforts have been stepped up, with campaigns such as 'Get to Know'[200] generating over 7.7 million digital interactions that challenge stereotypes. Training on antigypsyism has also been delivered to public servants in Vilnius. The adoption of the Law on National Minorities in 2025[201] and the holding of consultations on establishing an Expert Commission to Combat Antigypsyism highlighted the increased official recognition of the issues of antigypsyism and discrimination. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs acknowledge the progress made, however, concerns have been raised over widespread antigypsyism, under-prosecuted hate speech and hate crimes and discrimination in public sector interactions. They also highlight the need for targeted training for law enforcement and civil servants, and the importance of addressing antigypsyism as a structural issue. **ASSESSMENT**: Lithuania is encouraged to continue developing its institutional and policy framework to address antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma. Going forward, the planned Expert Commission to Combat Antigypsyism could lead to more coordinated dialogue and policy development across relevant sectors. Continuing to offer training for public servants and law enforcement, alongside awareness-raising activities, may further contribute to promoting equal treatment and improving responses to discrimination	
REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Lithuania has reformed social protection systems in a way that also benefits Roma. Efforts have focused on improving access to social services, including by expanding regional provision, strengthening social workers' capacities and digitalising support systems. Measures have also been introduced to increase income	

[197] "Action Plan for Roma Inclusion 2030". available at: https://tmde.lrv.lt/media/viesa/saugykla/2024/2/EwBBKB9fONY.pdf.
[198] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[199] Available at: https://www.romuplatforma.lt/.
[200] Available at: https://roma.lt/pazink.
[201] Available at: Available at: https://e-seimas.lrs.lt and https://www.idea.int/democracytracker/report/lithuania/january-2025.

levels among low-income individuals, including by improving social and pension benefits. However, challenges remain, including as a result of limited outreach, administrative inefficiencies and regional disparities, highlighting the need for more integrated support

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Stakeholders emphasise that poverty among Roma is an issue with many different dimensions and that, as such, it requires integrated sectoral responses. They identify territorial segregation as a primary structural barrier that isolates families from labour markets and essential services. Furthermore, CSOs highlight 'invisible barriers'–such as digital exclusion and a lack of identity documentation or property deeds–which prevent the most marginalised households from accessing mainstream social protection.

ASSESSMENT: Lithuania uses mainstream social protection measures to improve social inclusion. LT is encouraged to continue these efforts, to strengthen outreach and to address administrative and regional disparities. Enhancing coordination across education, housing and employment measures, alongside anti-discrimination efforts, could lead to more effective and sustainable inclusion.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: The 'Lithuanian Roma Platform – Going Local' project, employs five mediators across key municipalities (Jonava, Kybartai, Marijampole, Panevžys and Vilnius) and facilitates cooperation with public institutions. Roma participation is further supported through targeted empowerment initiatives for women and youth, such as Vilnius-based daycare centres ('Roma Community Centre' and 'Help to Belong'), which provide informal education, leadership training and preschool integration. Additionally, Roma and pro-Roma CSOs are formally included in the interinstitutional working group responsible for monitoring the national Roma strategy.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: While consultation mechanisms exist, stakeholders report that participation is often tokenistic, with CSOs exerting limited influence on agenda-setting or final policy outcomes. CSOs note that several of their proposals were excluded from the national strategy due to financial constraints. Furthermore, the short-term, project-based funding available for mediators is cited as a major barrier to the sustainability and long-term impact of their work, and there have been calls for better institutional support and professional supervision.

ASSESSMENT: Lithuania is encouraged to continue supporting existing mechanisms for cooperation with Roma and pro-Roma stakeholders at national and local levels. Going forward, maintaining dialogue through the interinstitutional working group and community-based initiatives may contribute to continued exchange between public institutions and Roma communities. Continued support for mediation activities, youth and women's initiatives, and local outreach measures could further facilitate access to services and participation opportunities.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Lithuania has taken steps to improve Roma inclusion in education, including by putting in place targeted measures under the local initiative Vilnius Roma Inclusion Programme for 2024-2026[202]. Measures include the introduction of Roma teaching assistants and provision of support for Roma participation in non-formal education, the aim of which is to improve engagement and educational outcomes.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs emphasise the need for more tailored policies and measures to address the specific educational needs of Roma children, particularly in reducing dropout rates and removing bureaucratic barriers that limit access to quality education.

ASSESSMENT: Lithuania is encouraged to continue supporting inclusive education measures designed to improve the participation and educational outcomes of Roma children. Going forward, continued attention to reducing early school leaving and addressing practical barriers to access may further support equal participation in education and improved educational outcomes.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

[202] 'Vilniaus miesto savivaldybės romų įtraukties į visuomenę 2024-2026 metų programa': VMS-romu-itraukties-i-visuomene-2024-2026m.-programa.pdf.

REPORTED PROGRESS: In Lithuania, the issue of Roma access to employment is mainly encompassed within mainstream labour market measures. The Public Employment Service provides career services, puts in place active labour market measures and organises employment promotion programmes, which also reach Roma. In 2024, 415 Roma were registered with employment services and 152 entered employment. The report identifies low levels of education among Roma and discrimination in the labour market as key challenges. Targeted support includes vocational training activities, through which Roma participants have obtained professional qualifications.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note the lack of large-scale, Roma-specific employment programmes and affirmative action in the public sector. They also highlight the need to address the precarious employment conditions of Roma mediators, who often work under 'self-employed' contracts that deny them social protections, and to tackle the systemic barriers that force Roma to rely on the informal economy.

ASSESSMENT: In Lithuania, the issue of Roma access to employment is mainly encompassed within mainstream labour market measures. Lithuania is encouraged to continue these efforts, to address structural barriers and to strengthen access to sustainable employment opportunities for Roma. Further efforts to put in place targeted support and outreach could enhance labour market inclusion.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The establishment of Roma health mediators by Vilnius municipality is the main achievement reported. These mediators facilitate access to healthcare services, assist Roma in navigating the healthcare system and contribute to building trust between Roma communities and healthcare providers. In 2024, Roma mediators participated in training courses on patients' rights and healthcare awareness, with the aim of improving their knowledge of rights and access to services. In addition, community-based services, including daycare centres, have implemented awareness-raising activities for Roma parents, including on autism spectrum disorder.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight the insufficient provision and bureaucratic nature of healthcare services, which often have strict eligibility criteria that limit access to care. They also emphasise the need to acknowledge the impact of displacement and poverty on health outcomes and access to healthcare for Roma individuals. Furthermore, they stress the importance of developing programmes that address the cultural and linguistic needs of Roma individuals in healthcare.

ASSESSMENT: Improving Roma access to health services in Lithuania is addressed through targeted and community-based measures, including the use of Roma mediators. Lithuania is encouraged to continue these efforts, while further strengthening access to healthcare and inclusive approaches. Building on existing initiatives could further improve trust and effective access to services for Roma.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Access to housing is primarily provided through mainstream measures, including access to social housing and rent compensation for low-income households. Additional financial support is available for housing-related expenses, including rent and utility costs. Local initiatives, particularly in Vilnius, complement these measures by providing targeted support to Roma families, including assistance in accessing rental housing and linking housing support with broader social and employment services. These efforts aim to facilitate more sustainable housing solutions and improve living conditions.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge progress, while raising concerns about the limited availability of affordable housing, strict eligibility criteria and instances of discrimination in access to housing. They also highlight the need to ensure adequate and sustainable housing solutions for Roma, including in situations of displacement.

ASSESSMENT: In Lithuania, the issue of Roma access to housing is mainly addressed through mainstream support measures, complemented by local initiatives. LT is encouraged to continue these efforts, while ensuring access to adequate and non-segregated housing for Roma. Addressing barriers related to availability, affordability and access, including potential discrimination, could further improve housing outcomes.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY
REPORTED PROGRES: A permanent interinstitutional working group supports coordination and monitoring of the NRSF, bringing together state, municipal and Roma stakeholders, including CSOs. Roma and pro-Roma organisations are involved in implementation through project activities and community initiatives. The NRCP also engages with local authorities and Roma communities, including through cooperation with Vilnius municipality and outreach at local level. The NRCP's regular meetings with the Ombudsmen of Equal Opportunities provide an additional platform for addressing issues of discrimination and antigypsyism. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs did not report on this objective. **ASSESSMENT:** Partnership structures in Lithuania provide a basis for cooperation with Roma stakeholders. Lithuania is encouraged to continue strengthening inclusive and structured participation by Roma and pro-Roma organisations at all policymaking stages, which could further improve the effectiveness and sustainability of inclusion efforts.
PROMISING PRACTICE
The Roma mediators programme is a promising practice that has shown potential to increase trust and participation between Roma communities and public institutions. By acting as 'bridges' with public institutions, Roma mediators provide essential support with schooling, healthcare, employment and social services. Similarly, educational programmes specifically targeting Roma, with activities such as tutoring, educational trips and school mediation, have encouraged participation and school attendance. CSO-led empowerment initiatives have also strengthened participation and collective action among Roma communities, and have the potential to promote social inclusion and empowerment by providing sustained support. [203]

[203] Available at: https://www.romuplatforma.lt/en/.

Table 16 - Luxembourg

Luxembourg	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	Luxembourg does not have a National Roma Strategic Framework (NRSF). In December 2025, Luxembourg adopted a National Anti-racism Action Plan[204], implementing the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which covers housing, education, employment, victim support, awareness-raising and equality data.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	Council of Europe estimates: approximately 300 (0.06% of the population)[205].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Ministry of Family Affairs, Solidarity, Living Together and Reception of Refugees.
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP is managed by a designated civil servant within the Ministry of Family Affairs, Solidarity, Living Together and Reception of Refugees[206]. It is integrated within the existing ministry structure and has no dedicated budget. It coordinates and monitors Roma-related work and supports relevant civil society organisations but has no role in mainstreaming Roma issues into social inclusion policy design or in making decisions on Union funds.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: A glossary on anti-racism and ethno-racial discrimination207, including terms such as 'Roma' and 'antigypsyism', was developed in partnership with Roms sans Frontière208 – the sole Roma CSO in Luxembourg – and published on the website of the Ministry of Family Affairs, Solidarity, Living Together and Reception of Refugees. The 'Forgotten Victims'209 exhibition, highlighting the persecution of Roma and other groups by the Nazi regime, was showcased at the National Museum of Resistance and Human Rights in Esch-sur-Alzette (March–December 2024) and displayed in Strasbourg during Luxembourg's presidency of the Council of Europe (April–May 2025). **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs did not report on this objective. **ASSESSMENT**: Luxembourg has taken some steps to raise awareness of antigypsyism and Roma history through educational and memorial initiatives, including the development of anti-racism terminology resources and public exhibitions. Going forward, the Law on Intercultural Living Together and the National Anti-racism Action Plan may provide further opportunities to strengthen measures promoting equality and addressing discrimination, including antigypsyism. Continued cooperation with civil society actors and support for awareness-raising activities could contribute to sustaining dialogue on and visibility of these issues.	
REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION	

[204] Ministère de la Famille, des Solidarités, du Vivre ensemble et de l'Accueil. *Plan d'action national Antiracisme.* 2025. Available at: https://mfsva.gouvernement.lu/dam-assets/le-minist%C3%A8re/attributions/zesummeliewen/anti-racisme/01019-mfsva-zl-nap-ounirassismus-broch-panar-a4-acc-bf-new.pdf.
[205] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[206] Available at : https://mfsva.gouvernement.lu/en.html.
[207] Available at : https://mfsva.gouvernement.lu/en/le-ministere/attributions/zesummeliewen/panantiracisme/glossaireantiracisme.html.
[208] Available at: https://www.ronnendesch.lu/roms-du-luxembourg-letat-aux-abonnes-absents/.
[209] Available at: https://mnr.lu/storage/app/uploads/public/66c/dd2/420/66cdd24207bb8411834578.pdf.

REPORTED PROGRESS: While there are no specific measures exclusively targeting Roma, a key measure under this objective is the allocation of benefits to low-income households through the National Solidarity Fund210, including the social inclusion income, allowances for the severely disabled, energy allowances, cost-of-living benefits and child benefits, designed to reduce poverty and social exclusion.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs did not report on this objective.

ASSESSMENT: Luxembourg continues to address poverty and social exclusion through mainstream social protection measures targeting low-income households. Measures implemented under the National Solidarity Fund, including income support and social allowances, contribute to the broader framework of social inclusion policies. Going forward, continued monitoring and evaluation of these measures may result in a better understanding of their overall effectiveness and accessibility.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRCP actively engages with the only Roma CSO in Luxembourg – Roms sans Frontière – and has fostered a collaborative relationship, which includes efforts to combat antigypsyism. Through this partnership, the NRCP solicits the CSO's input to feed into EU-level NRCP meetings and provides updates on such meetings, while facilitating connections with other EU-wide Roma and pro-Roma CSOs. The NRCP also informs Roms sans Frontière of funding opportunities at national and EU level and has encouraged it to apply for ESF+ and the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) funding.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs did not report on this objective.

ASSESSMENT: Luxembourg continues to support dialogue and cooperation with Roma civil society through the partnership between the NRCP and Roms sans Frontière. Exchanges on EU-level developments, funding opportunities and antigypsyism keep the channels of communication and participation open. Going forward, continued cooperation with civil society actors may improve the exchange of expertise and experiences relevant to Roma inclusion and equality policies.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Under the ESF+ Luxembourg has included Roma children among its target groups, and has put in place measures to prevent exclusion, integrate new pupils, and support young people facing difficulties in education and training. Low-income families benefit from childcare service vouchers and social assistance for school-related expenses, including subsidies for school supplies and extracurricular activities.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs did not report on this objective.

ASSESSMENT: Although LU is expanding access to early childhood education and care, language barriers persist, as childcare services are mainly offered in Luxembourgish and French. From 2027, French literacy will also be taught in primary schools. LU has implemented the European Child Guarantee effectively, offering free school meals to many pupils, and adopted a wide-ranging anti-poverty plan in late 2025 that targeted low-income families.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

[210] Available at: National Solidarity Fund - Luxembourg

REPORTED PROGRESS: Luxembourg has three official languages and has put in place initiatives to enhance language learning to facilitate labour market entry in this multilingual context. Notable examples include the Ministry of Education's 'Language Integration Course'211, and a CSO-led project enabling low-income non-Luxembourgers in receipt of the Social Inclusion Income to develop language skills through work-based learning, alongside other ESF+ projects designed to improve access to employment.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs did not report on this objective.

ASSESSMENT: Luxembourg continues to support access to employment and training through mainstream inclusion and language-learning measures adapted to its multilingual labour market. Initiatives promoting language acquisition and work-based learning may contribute to improving access to employment opportunities for vulnerable groups, including Roma. Continued monitoring of participation in and outcomes of existing employment and training measures could help to understand how accessible and effective these are.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Luxembourg provides coverage for a high level of public health expenditure currently 86.1%212. Additionally, the Universal Health Coverage pilot project (CUSS), launched in 2022, provides vulnerable families with access to statutory health insurance, regardless of their financial means. The project, funded by the Ministry of Health and Social Security, also provides funding for social worker positions to ensure that regular follow-up is available for beneficiaries.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs did not report on this objective.

ASSESSMENT: LU continues to provide access to healthcare for Roma primarily through mainstream public health and social protection measures. The high level of public health expenditure coverage and initiatives such as CUSS contribute to the broader aim of supporting access to healthcare for vulnerable groups. Continued monitoring and evaluation of existing measures may help to understand its accessibility and effectiveness of coverage.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Although Roma are not identified as a specific target group, the Affordable Housing Law (August 2023)[213] represents a relevant development under this objective. The law prioritises social inclusion and access to housing for low-income individuals, with key provisions including state financial participation in affordable housing projects, a national register for the allocation of affordable housing, and initiatives to renovate and develop the housing stock.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSO did not report on this objective.

ASSESSMENT: Luxembourg continues to address access to affordable housing for Roma primarily through mainstream housing policies and social inclusion measures. The Affordable Housing Law and the development of a centralised monitoring tool represent relevant steps within the broader housing policy framework. Going forward, continued monitoring of housing accessibility and affordability may help to better understand the impact of these measures on vulnerable groups including Roma.

[211] Linguistic integration of newly arrived adults - Education system - Education nationale, Enfance et Jeunesse - Luxembourg.
[212] Available at: https://eurohealthobservatory.who.int/monitors/health-systems-monitor/countries-hspm/hspm/luxemburg-2025/financing/.
[213] Available at: https://logement.public.lu/fr/politique/logabo.html.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY
REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRCP has fostered partnerships to strengthen Roma inclusion efforts, notably with Roms sans Frontière and the equality body, Centre pour l'Égalité de Traitement 214. The equality body provides expert advice to ministries, reviews legislative proposals, conducts awareness and training campaigns, monitors equality policies, and offers support to individuals facing discrimination. The NRCP has partnered with the Roma CSO on antigypsyism initiatives, although the CSO has limited capacity for monitoring, hate crime reporting and victim support. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs did not report on this objective. **ASSESSMENT:** Luxembourg continues to support cooperation between the NRCP, the equality body and Roma civil society actors in equality and inclusion. The partnerships with Roms sans Frontière and the Centre pour l'Égalité de Traitement contribute to ongoing awareness-raising and exchange on discrimination and antigypsyism issues. Going forward, continued dialogue and cooperation between relevant institutions and civil society actors may improve the implementation and visibility of inclusion and equality measures.
PROMISING PRACTICE
The '*Forgotten Victims'* exhibition, held at the National Museum of Resistance and Human Rights in Luxembourg from March to December 2024, raised awareness of the persecution of Roma and other groups during World War II. Educational materials and a mobile version were subsequently exhibited in Strasbourg in 2025.

[214] Available at: https://cet.lu/en/home.

Table 17 - Hungary

Hungary	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	Hungary's National Roma strategy - HNSIS 2030 (2021 - 2030)[215]
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION	2022 National census: 210,000 (KSH)[216] Council of Europe estimates: approximately 750,000 (7.94% of the population)[217] Expert estimation: 876,000[218]
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Ministry of Interior, State Secretariat for Social Opportunities and Roma Relations
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP is the main organisation responsible for developing, implementing, and monitoring social inclusion policy, including Roma integration policy, for mainstreaming Roma integration and for drafting social inclusion policies. It operates on a total budget of approximately EUR 2 052 336. It is consulted when universal services are developed that affect the Roma and other disadvantaged population. It contributes to the implementation and monitoring of measures taken in sectors such as education, healthcare and employment. The Deputy State Secretariat for EU Developments, under the Ministry of the Interior coordinates EU-funded programmes, with the NRCP participating in decision-making and serving as a full member of the monitoring committee of the human resources development operational programme plus (HRDOP Plus).	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Most measures under this objective focused on strengthening Roma identity and showcasing Roma cultural, intellectual and material heritage, including the contribution of Roma communities to national and European culture. Roma national minority grant schemes provided regular funding for the public events of the national minority representation. The István Szentandrássy Roma Art Gallery[219] presents the work of major Roma artists, provides exhibition opportunities for talented contemporary artists, and organises art-education programmes. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** Law enforcement officials received training on the hate crime protocol, and a thematic working group on Roma issues under the Ministry of Justice operated as a consultative body, meeting once a year. Antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma remain significant concerns. Plans to conclude special agreements with Roma organisations have not materialised; the president of the national Roma self-government (ORÖ)[220] had no knowledge of any such agreements. The ECRI stresses the need to strengthen law-enforcement capacity to detect hate crimes and ensure independent legal-aid services, properly functioning public-complaints mechanisms, and anti-discrimination training for law enforcement officials.[221] **ASSESSMENT**: Hungary has made progress in promoting Roma cultural initiatives, but antigypsyism and discrimination remain significant challenges. To address them, authorities should bolster the implementation of the hate crime protocol through improved monitoring and accountability, while ensuring access to independent legal aid for victims. The Thematic Working Group on Roma Issues could become more effective by systematically involving	

[215] National Roma Inclusion Strategy: https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/.
[216] Hungarian National Census 2022: https://nepszamlalas2022.ksh.hu/en/results/final-data/publication/.
[217] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[218] János Pénzes, Patrik Tátrai, and István Zoltán Pásztor (2018), 'Changes in the Spatial Distribution of the Roma Population in Hungary During the Last Decades", 'University. of Debrecen. Available at: https://real.mtak.hu/85799/.
[219] Available at: Szentandrássy István Roma Art Gallery.
[220] Available at: https://www.oro.hu/.
[221] Available at :https://rm.coe.int/ecri-6th-report-on-hungary-translation-in-hungarian-/1680aa687b.

Roma civil society in its decision-making. Establishing clear indicators to measure progress, such as the number of resolved discrimination cases and improved law-enforcement responses, would help improve accountability. To ensure that cultural progress leads to systemic change there need to be complementary measures, including mandatory anti-discrimination training for public officials, and more accessible public-complaints mechanisms.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Several programmes have been implemented to reduce poverty and social exclusion among Roma communities. The catching up settlements programme[222], launched in 2019, provides the 300 most disadvantaged settlements with tailored services such as social work, early-childhood interventions, health improvements, sports, crime and drug prevention, housing improvements, advice on energy consumption, and economic development. The Complex Settlement Programme is designed to improve the social inclusion of disadvantaged communities living in segregated housing and deep poverty, involving 95 municipalities and 126 segregated areas. The 177 sure start children's houses support[223] children aged 0-3 from Roma and other disadvantaged backgrounds living in severe poverty, with more than 2,400 children attending annually with their parents.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge some improvements in family benefits but note that spending on social protection as a share of GDP has fallen and, in terms of reducing poverty, the impact of transfers has deteriorated. In 2024, 64.5% of Roma were at risk of poverty or social exclusion (AROPE), compared to 18.3% of non-Roma [224]. The number of recipients of regular child protection allowance decreased, and extended housing subsidies favour higher-income households. The lack of a progressive tax system and poorly targeted subsidies have exacerbated wealth inequality (the highest in the EU in 2023) and left the poorest people in society unprotected. CSOs call for significant improvements in social benefits and accessible social services

ASSESSMENT: Hungary's catching up settlements programme and sure start children's houses have provided support to Roma communities, yet 64.5% remain at risk of poverty. To strengthen impact, further efforts could focus on ensuring that social benefits and housing subsidies are targeted more effectively, improving coordination between local services, and ensuring Roma participation in programme design. To ensure that measures lead to sustainable inclusion, it is essential to address the decline in spending on social protection and to reinforce monitoring frameworks. Clearer alignment with measurable poverty-reduction targets would further support progress.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: A key aim of the complex programme for segregated areas was to empower Roma women's communities and to support the establishment of Roma women's NGOs. This involved focus-group discussions with 80 participants from 17 settlements, 66 project generation workshops, mentoring, legal assistance and professional forums. A Facebook group has been set up to support service development for Roma women in segregated situations. The Roma youth round table, established in December 2024, is an advisory body on issues affecting Roma youth, as reported by the Hungarian Ministry of Interior. The Roma coordination council[225] meets at least twice a year and provides a major forum for territorial and local stakeholders to discuss the implementation of social-inclusion policy.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report that there are forums for consultation on NRSF implementation, but they are mostly ineffective, as recognised CSOs are excluded from consultation processes. Resources for Roma CSOs, regardless of political allegiance, are steadily decreasing. Government funds have increasingly been channelled into government-affiliated CSOs, limiting the capacity of independent civil society. In 2025, many Hungarian CSOs were confronted with the Law on the Protection of Sovereignty[226], which has led the European Court of Justice to take legal action against Hungary.

ASSESSMENT: Hungary's efforts to promote Roma participation through the Roma youth round table and women's empowerment initiatives are major steps forward. Their impact will be even greater if they can be expanded to ensure

[222] Available at: https://felzarkozotelepulesek.hu/.
[223] Available: Sure Start Children's House | European Social Fund Plus.
[224] Available at: 5.1.1.2. People at risk of poverty or social exclusion by sex, age, educational attainment level, income quintile, most frequent activity status, household type (EU2030 target).
[225] Available at: https://www.parlament.hu (*CXXIV. törvény 2025 - "Törvényhozás.).*
[226] Hungary's 2023 Law on the Protection of Sovereignty (Act CXXIV); available at: https://njt.jog.gov.hu/jogszabaly/en/2023-88-00-00.

the meaningful involvement of independent Roma civil society. The potential of the Roma coordination council will be even greater if there is more involvement grassroots organisations and clearer mechanisms are established for Roma input in decision-making. Legal and financial barriers, including those posed by the 2025 Sovereignty Law, must be overcome if we are to create an environment where Roma-led initiatives can thrive. Introducing measurable participation targets and publishing progress reports would lead to greater transparency and accountability in these processes.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Compulsory preschool education has been in place since 2015 from the age of three and has contributed to an increase in the participation of Roma children. There are other measures designed to support disadvantaged pupils, particularly those from Roma communities, throughout the education pathway. 'Tanodas*'* (are community-based informal-learning centres run by civil society or local actors)[227]that provide extracurricular support to primary school pupils in disadvantaged situations. Currently, around 180 centres serve more than 5,500 pupils every day outside school hours. The 'For the Road'[228]scholarship scheme offers financial support and mentoring to nearly 10,000 disadvantaged pupils and students each year; the aim is to reduce early school leaving and support transitions to further education. In addition, Roma boarding schools[229] support over 300 Roma students in higher education every year.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note that early school leaving a among 18-24-year-olds dropped to 44% (2023), while 43% of Roma aged 20–24 completed upper secondary education[230]. Teacher salaries rose, with supplements for those supporting disadvantaged pupils. However, infrastructure upgrades and teacher training fall short of what is required. A 2023 law cuts 10% of funding from schools with fewer disadvantaged pupils than the local average[231]. Social inequalities persist, with segregation and uneven access to support services - primarily in Budapest - while rural areas face shortages and a 16,000-teacher deficit[232]. The system still fails to address structural disparities effectively

ASSESSMENT: Hungary has made progress in access to Roma education, with 73% participation in early-childhood education.[233] Building on these results, further developments could focus on expanding successful initiatives like 'Tanodas' and scholarship programmes to reach more rural communities. Addressing school segregation, where 62% of Roma children attend majority-Roma schools (while in several municipalities church schools have low shares of disadvantaged and Roma pupils), will be a key factor in improving educational equity. Continued investments in teacher training and school infrastructure in disadvantaged areas can contribute to reducing the teacher shortage. Policy implementation could be improved by developing stronger monitoring frameworks to track progress in lowering early school leaving rates and increasing upper secondary completion boost. Ensuring balanced resource allocation across all regions will be essential for sustained improvements in Roma educational outcomes.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: The 'chances are growing – training embedded in employment'[234]programme provided in-house training for unemployed Roma, especially Roma women, and employment opportunities. 1134 Roma people obtained marketable vocational qualifications for two jobs, a child and youth supervisor and a social worker, and 840 people had obtained open-ended employment contracts at the end of the programme. Additionally, the 'actively learning for knowledge' programme aimed to improve the employability of the registered unemployed, jobseekers or inactive persons between the ages of 16 and 60 with no more than a completed primary school education or no

[227] Available at: Belügyminisztérium.
[228] Available at: Útravaló Scholarship Program.
[229] Available at: Ministry of Interior.
[230] Available at: Roma survey 2024 | European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights.
[231] Act No XCII of 2023 on anti-discrimination measures applicable in the field of public education, available at:: https://njt.jog.gov.hu/jogszabaly/2023-92-00-00?utm.
[232] Available at: https://dailynewshungary.com/teacher-shortage-in-hungary-critical-tens-of-thousands-are-missing/.
[233] European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights – Roma Survey 2024.available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/2025/roma-survey-2024.
[234] Available at: https://tef.gov.hu/projektek/.

education, through training programmes that support the completion of primary school and develop their skills, provide work experience and/or establish vocational education and training.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: According to CSOs Hungary's employment rate (81%[235] in 2025) is higher than the EU average, this masks deep inequalities. The National Roma Strategy's 13 targeted programmes ended in 2023 with no new funding calls, leaving Roma communities without support. In-work poverty persists, particularly in low-skilled and public work sectors, where labour protections are weak. Roma youth face alarming dropout rates– exacerbated by the compulsory schooling age going down to 16–leading to high NEET levels, while migrant workers lack skills training due to state failures. CSOs criticise the strategy's failure to address cross-border labour migration and systemic barriers such as discrimination and segregated education. Urgent structural reforms and dedicated funding are needed to tackle these disparities.

ASSESSMENT: Employment initiatives have contributed to skills development and job placement for Roma, with 1,134 participants gaining qualifications and 840 securing long-term contracts. Further progress could be made by expanding these programmes to reach more vulnerable groups, particularly Roma youth whose NEET rates are high (36%).[236]. To improve job quality, it will be necessary to address structural challenges such as in-work poverty and weak labour protections in low-skilled sectors. Renewing targeted funding and strengthening links between training and labour market needs may support more sustainable employment outcomes. Policies will be more effective with clearer monitoring mechanisms to track progress in reducing employment disparities.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The catching up settlements programme and the complex settlement programme[237] helped to increase the access of the disadvantaged/Roma population to healthcare. Health improvements bringing health close to the patients including telemedicine healthcare, paediatric ophthalmology, the establishment of 5 Malta Order Health Points[238], mobile clinics and an online live video medical link. Drug-prevention activities are implemented by a prevention team consisting of mobile (travelling) experts and permanent general services locally, working with local stakeholders to establish a diagnosis of drug use and develop joint intervention strategies. Each local project of the complex settlement programme has implemented health screenings, with 7,961 people receiving screenings in 95 municipalities and 126 segregated areas on an ongoing basis.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: The FETE telemedicine measure in catching up settlements[239] targets Hungary's most disadvantaged areas, providing screenings, exams, and paediatric eye tests via mobile clinics. However, it operates in only 36 of Hungary's 3.000+ municipalities, while vacant General Practitioner (GP) positions reached 864 by June 2025. Before 2023 the EU funds improved social services and reduced territorial disparities. However, post-2023 funding has focused solely on FETE, which covers fewer than 10% of municipalities. Discrimination against Roma patients persists, and a health culture programme remains urgent. While FETE expands services in small settlements, it is incapable of addressing systemic gaps in independent healthcare. Paediatric primary care is underfunded, specialist services are overburdened, and there is a shortfall of hospital capacity for newborns.

ASSESSMENT: Health initiatives, including telemedicine and mobile clinics, have improved access for 7 961 Roma across 95 municipalities. To build on this progress, expanding services to more disadvantaged areas–beyond the current 36 of 3 000+ municipalities–will be key. To ensure equitable care, systemic gaps, such as the 864 vacant GP positions and persistent discrimination will need to be addressed. Strengthening paediatric and primary healthcare services, alongside broader social support integration, could enhance sustainability. Developing monitoring frameworks to track healthcare access and outcomes would boost policy implementation. Ensuring stable funding and comprehensive coverage will be essential for reducing disparities and improving long-term health outcomes for Roma communities.

[235] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code lfsi_emp_a), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/lfsi_emp_a__custom_22322022/default/table.
[236] European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights – Roma Survey 2024.available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/2025/roma-survey-2024.
[237] Available at: https://tef.gov.hu/projektek/.
[238] Available at: https://fete.hu/szakteruletek/egeszsegugy/.
[239] Available at: https://fete.hu/.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The catching up settlements programme and complex settlement programme improved living and housing conditions for disadvantaged/Roma populations, particularly in segregated areas. Key measures include life-threat prevention (e.g. roof/chimney repairs, window/door replacements) in 1 030 properties, and restoration of houses damaged by natural disasters. By 30 June 2026, the programme will have delivered 670 new social rental apartments (120 newly built, 550 renovated), managed by a social housing agency under non-market rental conditions. Free counselling is provided for debt settlement and housing-related government assistance. Another purpose of the programme was to reduce housing segregation by facilitating relocation from segregated to integrated areas; 275 new dwellings have been built and 349 renovated.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report that while complex anti-segregation housing programmes (EFOP, VEKOP, TOP OPs) and the FETE programme's multi-level measures in 300 disadvantaged settlements were planned, implementation faces critical delays. According to CSOs, several EU-funded programmes were halted due to differing interpretations of the definition of segregated settlements and until a consensus is reached, planned projects under the EFOP and TOP operational programmes have been put on hold. Under the RRF, the pace of housing-unit delivery has fallen well short of the target, raising concerns about timely completion ahead of the June 2026 deadline. CSOs call for urgent action to address systemic housing exclusion and to ensure programme continuity.

ASSESSMENT: According to the Hungarian authorities, the catching up settlements programme and complex settlement programme have contributed to improving housing conditions for disadvantaged and Roma populations through targeted renovations, life-threat prevention measures, social rental housing, and counselling services. The authorities also report that the programmes aim to reduce residential segregation by supporting relocation from segregated to integrated areas. However, implementation delays and uncertainties affecting EU-funded programmes continue to limit progress. The thematic enabling condition on Roma inclusion has not been fulfilled yet, as the so-called local identity protection law and municipal decrees undermine prevention and elimination of segregation and mainstreaming Roma inclusion at local level. According to FRA data, 93% of Roma live in overcrowded households compared to 15%[240] of the population as a whole[241], highlighting persistent housing deprivation and segregation. Further efforts are needed to ensure the timely implementation and continuity of housing programmes, with stronger focus on adequate affordable housing and desegregation measures.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRCP oversees Roma integration mainstreaming and the development of social inclusion-policy. Roma and pro-Roma civil society organisations contributed to the Hungarian national social inclusion strategy through standard consultations and participate as beneficiaries. Selected CSOs, including a Roma organisation and an 18-member Roma/pro-Roma CSO network, are represented on the human resources development operational programme monitoring committee[242]. Five-year local equal opportunity programmes, legally mandated for municipalities and supported by the equal opportunities mentor network, provide the foundation for local involvement. The human rights working group's round table, involving the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights and the president of the equal treatment President, further facilitates stakeholder dialogue. The purpose of these structures is to promote inclusive policymaking and monitoring, but their effectiveness will need constant monitoring.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs reported low participation in the implementation of the national Roma strategy. Roma and pro-Roma organisations independent of the government, the Egalipe Network[243], asked to comment on the revised strategy under the conditionality procedure but this request was rejected, and the members of the Roma coordination council were given only four days to do so. In the largest programme, FETE, only seven out of 300 municipalities had a Roma implementing organisation. There is no institutional monitoring of implementation of the strategy to which independent civil society actors can be linked. However, several organisations could delegate members to the monitoring committees of the six operational programmes. The Roma coordination council has not put

[240] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code ilc_lvho05a), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_lvho05a/default/table?lang=en.
[241] European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights – Roma Survey 2024. Available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/2025/roma-survey-2024.
[242] Available at: https://www.efop.gov.hu/ (Human Resources Development Operational Programme Monitoring Committee).
[243] Available at: https://www.egalipe.hu/.

the issue of antigypsyism on the agenda, even when requested to do so by one CSO member.

ASSESSMENT: Hungary has established institutional frameworks for Roma inclusion through the NRCP and civil society participation in monitoring committees. While these structures provide a foundation, CSOs report that their engagement remains modest. Further progress could focus on strengthening Roma CSO involvement in policy development and implementation. There could be more meaningful participation if current limitations in consultation processes are addressed, including restricted timelines for CSO input. Expanding Roma CSO representation in programme monitoring and decision-making could improve accountability and lead to more successful policy outcomes. Prioritising antigypsyism on the Roma coordination council's agenda would further reinforce these efforts.

FUNDING

Hungary's Roma inclusion measures are financed from a combination of national and EU funding. The total funding allocated and spent per objective during 2023-2025 was as follows: i) EUR 3 046 905 for fighting antigypsyism and discrimination; ii) EUR 50 830 492 for reducing poverty and social exclusion; iii) EUR 193 853 for promoting participation; iv) EUR 33 179 281 for education; v) EUR 1 664 356 for employment; vi) EUR 2 467 023 for health and social services; and vii) EUR 42 180 037 for housing interventions.

The territorial targeting of the operational programmes also helps to reach people living in disadvantaged areas. This includes addressing the complex needs of people living in the 300 most disadvantaged settlements (catching-up settlements). Funding for Roman inclusion measures are mainly from EU funds and there is very little national funding.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

In this reporting period Hungary did not mention quantitative targets. The country has set up a mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the NRSF, with progress reports submitted every two years to the Minister of Interior and to the Hungarian government. The implementation of the strategy is divided into two-year action cycles. The latest report is from 2023, and the following report was due on 30 November 2025. Roma and pro-Roma CSOs are monitoring the implementation of the NRSF through their membership in the Roma coordination council[244] and the relevant monitoring committees (HRDOP+[245] and the regional and settlement development operational programme plus (TSDOPP[246]). There is no funding from the national budget is available for Roma and pro-Roma organisations for monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the NRSF.

PROMISING PRACTICES

'Sure start children's houses' (a state-funded programme that has been running since 2004) provide early-childhood development support to children aged 0–3 living in severe poverty, the vast majority of whom are Roma (estimated at 96%). The 177 institutions operating across the country – permanently integrated into the national service system since 2013 and fully funded from the national budget (EUR 8.4 million over 2023-2025, with annual budget increases) – address EU Objectives 2 and 4 by offering developmental support, 'comfort services' and parental skills to over 2,300 Roma children per year. The dual focus on child development and parental involvement is central to the model's design and its long-term inclusion potential.[247]

The after-school educational facilities network of 180 'Tanodas' provides extracurricular support to children and young people in difficult social circumstances, some 95% of whom are Roma. Funded from the national budget (EUR 13.5 million over 2023-2025, with annual budget increases), the 180 'Tanodas' help more than 5,500 pupils daily, providing educational activities, socialisation, career guidance, cultural mediation and community development. Internal research indicates that the programme has not led to significantly better educational outcomes, but dropout and class-repetition rates would have been substantially higher without it. The network has been steadily expanded, and Hungary considers it an example of good practice in its national inclusion system.

[244] Available at: Government Decision 1102/2011. (IV. 15.), 2011.
[245] Available at: https://www.palyazat.gov.hu/hrdop.
[246] Available at: https://www.palyazat.gov.hu/programok/szechenyi-terv-plusz/top-plusz#monitoring-bizottsag.
[247] Available at: https://european-social-fund-plus.ec.europa.eu/en/social-innovation-match/case-study/sure-start-childrens-house.

Table 18 - The Netherlands

The Netherlands	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	In 2021, the Netherlands introduced its national Roma strategic framework, as a memorandum entitled 'Policy measures in the Netherlands for the equality, inclusion, and participation of Roma and Sinti'[248].
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	Council of Europe estimates: approximately 40 000 (0.24% of the population)[249].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
During the reporting period, the NRCP was allocated a total budget of approximately EUR 452 000 to support activities such as the biannual monitoring of Roma and Sinti social inclusion[250], dialogue sessions, the Roma and Sinti Knowledge Platform[251], research on challenges faced by Roma and Sinti women and girls, and the Roma Youth Platform. The NRCP, with 5 full-time equivalent staff, coordinates the country's approach to promoting equality, inclusion, and participation of Roma and Sinti communities. While it works to mainstream Roma and Sinti concerns across general policy areas, the NRCP does not participate in the programming or monitoring of EU funds, and the ministries involved retain control over their national policy decisions.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Key achievements include the formalisation of the Netherlands' fight against antigypsyism through the appointment of a national coordinator against discrimination and racism (NCDR)[252] in 2021, which led to the inclusion of a specific antigypsyism section in the national programme against discrimination and racism from 2023 onwards. In 2024, the NCDR engaged in consultations with Roma and Sinti representatives to inform the multi-year plan. The knowledge institute inclusive society[253] contributes to awareness-raising initiatives on antigypsyism targeting policymakers and social workers. Crucially, 2024 research commissioned by the NCDR identified antigypsyism as a root cause of the shortage of caravan pitches. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY**: CSOs acknowledge progress in the fight against antigypsyism through its legal recognition in the 2023 national programme against discrimination and racism, the provision of municipal legal aid, and awareness-raising initiatives such as Roma culture exhibitions. However, Roma and Sinti communities remain unrecognised as national minorities, limiting data collection, targeted policies, and meaningful participation, while broader equality laws may not fully capture Roma-specific discrimination. **ASSESSMENT**: Building on recent institutional progress, the Netherlands could further strengthen its response to antigypsyism by complementing its mainstream approach with more targeted measures addressing the specific forms of discrimination faced by Roma and Sinti communities. In this context, enhancing data collection mechanisms within existing legal constraints could support more effective monitoring and policy design. Consideration could also be given	

[248] Available at: https://commission.europa.eu/policy_measures_in_the_netherlands_for_the_equality_inclusion_and_participation_of_roma_and_sinti.pdf .
[249] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[250] Available at: https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/rapporten/2024/03/01/monitor-sociale-inclusie-roma-en-sinti-2023.
[251] Available at: https://www.kis.nl/themas/nederlandse-sinti-roma.
[252] Available at: https://www.bureauncdr.nl/.
[253] Available at: https://www.kis.nl/themas/nederlandse-sinti-roma.

to reinforcing the policy and legal framework to gain a better understanding of Roma-specific discrimination, including in areas such as housing. Strengthening structured participation of Roma and Sinti communities in policymaking processes may further improve trust and policy relevance. Continued efforts to translate awareness-raising and dialogue into tangible, measurable outcomes would support more sustainable progress.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Progress under this objective is reflected in mainstream initiatives with potential benefits for Roma and Sinti communities. The national programme on poverty and indebtedness[254] enables close cooperation between national and municipal authorities and social organisations, with municipal authorities retaining control over anti-poverty policies so that measures can be adapted to local needs. Measures include the prevention and early detection of poverty, with special attention given to child poverty. Since 2013, the social inclusion of Roma and Sinti communities has been analysed using qualitative methods to provide information on their housing and living conditions; the results are then shared with the House of Representatives.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge progress in poverty reduction through campaigns on benefits, increased minimum wages and allowances, and improved support for children in low-income families. However, Roma children remain largely overlooked in national child guarantee plans[255], and Roma CSOs lack sufficient engagement to ensure meaningful participation in relevant processes.

ASSESSMENT: The Netherlands could make its broader policy framework more effective by ensuring that the specific needs of Roma children are more explicitly set out in mainstream initiatives such as the child guarantee plans. As 2024 research indicates that antigypsyism can be a root cause of social exclusion - particularly regarding housing - consideration could be given to encouraging municipalities to implement targeted interventions within their local discretionary policies to address the specific socio-economic barriers faced by Roma and Sinti families. The qualitative monitor remains an important tool for identifying community needs in the absence of ethnic registration.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Progress under this objective is reflected in structured exchanges between Roma and Sinti representatives, CSOs and authorities in 2023 and 2024, addressing issues of discrimination, caravan policy, dual identity recognition, and mechanisms for sustainable dialogue. Since October 2023, a new procedure has been available under the Statelessness Determination Procedure Act[256] whereby individuals may apply to the civil court in the Hague to have their statelessness officially recognised. That law enables administrative recognition of evident statelessness by municipalities and the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND)[257], and amends the Dutch Nationality Act[258] to allow stateless children born in the Netherlands without legal residence to acquire Dutch nationality after five years of uninterrupted stable residence while stateless children with legal residence may become naturalised after three years. Such measures are expected to benefit Roma and Sinti communities.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge that Roma and Sinti representatives have been involved in discussions on historical persecution and municipal housing policies and were invited to the 2024 ECRI high-level meeting on equality and integration, signalling a more proactive approach. However, they point out that participation remains largely symbolic due to limited financial support and outreach, and that available EU funding remains underutilised and could be better leveraged to strengthen Roma CSOs and provide a central hub for community engagement.

ASSESSMENT: To bolster meaningful participation, the Netherlands could prioritise the timely establishment of structured Roma and Sinti involvement in dialogues and policymaking. Addressing persistent distrust identified in the 2023 monitor may require reinforcing the role of Roma and Sinti communities in decision-making processes,

[254] Available at: https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2025/06/06/kamerbrief-over-nationaal-programma-armoede-en-schulden.
[255] Available at: https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies-and-activities/social-protection-social-inclusion/addressing-poverty-and-supporting-social-inclusion/investing-children/european-child-guarantee/national-action-plans-and-progress-reports_en.
[256] Available at: https://ind.nl/en/determining-statelessness and https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0048458/2023-10-01.
[257] Available at: https://ind.nl/en.
[258] Available at: https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0048458/2023-10-01 and https://ind.nl/en/news/establishment-of-statelessness-laid-down-by-law .

potentially including greater involvement in the allocation of relevant funding streams. Consideration could also be given to advancing discussions on the recognition of Roma and Sinti under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities[259], which could provide a stronger basis for participation. Finally, planned investments in Holocaust education could be used to support the capacity and visibility of Roma and Sinti organisations.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: The Netherlands integrates mainstream support for at-risk children with targeted educational initiatives, including a primary school subsidy scheme that provides specific funding to boards with at least four Roma or Sinti pupils for additional assistance. The government funds a project entitled 'National education support for Traveller, Roma and Sinti children (OWRS)'[260], which serves as a national helpdesk and facilitates dialogue between schools and policymakers. A major 2024 milestone is the national plan for strengthening Holocaust education[261], supported by an annual EUR 1 million investment from 2025. The existing mandatory curriculum requirement (core objective 37) already covers the persecution of Jews, Sinti, Roma, and homosexuals, and the plan aims to strengthen teaching on this history more broadly. Progress is monitored through biennial qualitative research assessing social inclusion and educational participation.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs welcome the annual EUR 1 million subsidy scheme supporting schools with pupils from non-Dutch cultural backgrounds, which may also benefit Roma and Sinti students, and acknowledge funding for initiatives supporting school-leavers' transition to work or further education. However, they highlight the lack of baseline and disaggregated data on Roma and Sinti pupil attendance, and the scant information on participation in OWRS meetings which makes it more difficult to assess the effectiveness of existing measures and design targeted policies.

ASSESSMENT: The Netherlands could build on its combination of mainstream support and targeted measures by further expanding participation in early childhood education and care through proactive outreach and the removal of practical barriers**.** Enhancing parental engagement, including through intermediary or mediation approaches, could further support attendance and retention. At the same time, improving data collection and monitoring within existing legal constraints would allow for a clearer assessment of participation, outcomes, and the effectiveness of existing measures, including the primary school subsidy scheme and OWRS support. Increasing evaluation across educational pathways could help identify and address potential inequalities in progression.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: The Netherlands applies a mainstream approach to labour-market inclusion, relying on broad initiatives such as the 'for an inclusive labour market' (VIA) programme[262] and the national action programme to combat labour market discrimination[263]. Roma and Sinti jobseekers access universal support measures, including wage subsidies and job coaching provided by municipalities and the employee insurance agency (UWV)[264]. Insights from VIA pilot projects, such as 'nudging in recruitment and selection', are being used to address discrimination in this area.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge that employmen-support measures, including supplements for low-income unemployed individuals, were implemented in 2023–2024. However, Roma-specific employment measures remain limited and outdated, with short-term initiatives proving ineffective. CSOs emphasise that long-term, sustainable measures are needed to address structural barriers in employment such as discrimination and

[259] Available at: https://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/157.
[260] Available at: https://www.owrs.nl.
[261] Available at: https://www.ncab.nl/documenten/2025/3/20/nationaal-plan-versterking-holocausteducatie.
[262] Available at: https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2023/12/18/voortgangsbrief-programma-voor-een-inclusieve-arbeidsmarkt and https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/publicaties/2025/03/31/werkagenda-voor-een-inclusieve-arbeidsmarkt.
[263] Available at: https://www.bureauncdr.nl/binaries/bureauncdr/documenten/nationale-programmas/2023/12/12/national-program-2023--english/National+Programme+against+Discrimination+and+Racism+2023-+English.pdf .
[264] Available at: https://www.uwv.nl/en.

intergenerational poverty.

ASSESSMENT: While existing mainstream frameworks offer broad access to employment support, they do not specifically target Roma and Sinti communities. Their impact remains difficult to assess due to the absence of disaggregated data and legal constraints on collecting ethnicity-related information. The Netherlands could consider other approaches to monitoring, such as qualitative research and stakeholder engagement, to better understand the situation of Roma and Sinti communities. Addressing persistent structural barriers, particularly discrimination and low labour-market participation among women and youth, could support more effective and sustainable inclusion outcomes**.**

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The Netherlands has a generic health policy with the qualitative objective of promoting healthcare apt to deal with a diverse range of patients. Key measures focus on ensuring access: the CAK (Central Administration Office)[265] can help individuals who are currently uninsured to obtain insurance, withholding premiums from social benefits or wages to guarantee coverage. The biennial monitoring survey conducted by RISBO (Research Institute for Social Sciences and Business Economics)[266] identifies Roma physical and mental health vulnerabilities linked to poverty, intergenerational trauma, and caravan pitch shortages. Current efforts focus on overcoming distrust and cultural barriers through information initiatives and promoting equal access to public social services.

FEEDBACK THE CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note that under the IZA (Integral Care Agreement) (2023-2027)[267], transformation funds of approximately EUR 2.8 billion have been allocated to strengthening primary care, digitisation, and regional cooperation, potentially improving access to more inclusive and flexible healthcare for those facing barriers. However, the national action plan for the child guarantee has no specific measures for Roma and Sinti children, and inclusion requires permanent, culturally skilled staff rather than temporary intermediaries

ASSESSMENT: The Netherlands' mainstream healthcare framework provides broad coverage, but the absence of specific funding or quantitative targets for Roma and Sinti health limits the scope for targeted action. The country could consider strengthening preventive outreach and health awareness, particularly regarding mental health and lifestyle-related risks identified in the biannual monitor. Integrating culturally competent staff within healthcare services could help build trust and improve access. National initiatives, such as those under the EU Child Guarantee, could address more explicitly address the specific barriers and health needs faced by Roma and Sinti children. Strengthening coordination between health and social services, particularly at local level, would help address socio-economic barriers and support more inclusive access.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The Netherlands has made progress under this objective through specific financial commitments and mandatory monitoring. In 2023, the government offered EUR 34 million for housing specific groups, granting EUR 2.5 million to subsidise 279 new pitches, which should be completed within a five-year deadline to receive the funds. A further EUR 30 million is available for 2025. The 2023 biennial monitor reveals that 55% of municipalities have conducted needs assessments and 38% have implemented specific policies. Furthermore, an EUR 19 000 study by the University of Amsterdam (2024) identified antigypsyism and 'territorial stigma' as root causes for the pitch shortage.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs welcome the EUR 5 billion budget allocation for housing and increased rent and child allowances. While no Roma-specific measures are included, these reforms can benefit low- and middle-income households, including many Roma and Sinti families, by improving affordability and access to social housing. However, urban planning policies need to be more inclusive, ensuring culturally appropriate housing and protecting Traveller and caravan communities from discriminatory local measures.

ASSESSMENT: The Netherlands could build on recent financial commitments by ensuring that the five-year

[265] Available at: https://www.hetcak.nl/english.
[266] Available at: https://www.risbo.nl.
[267] Available at: https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/binaries/rijksoverheid/documenten/rapporten/2022/09/16/integraal-zorgakkoord-samen-werken-aan-gezonde-zorg/integraal-zorg-akkoord.pdf.

completion deadline for the 279 subsidised pitches translates into concrete delivery at municipal level. Integrating community perspective into urban planning processes could help tackle antigypsyism and 'territorial stigma' identified as root causes for pitch shortages. The EUR 30 million available for 2025 represents an important opportunity for further expansion. Consideration could also be given to encouraging the remaining 62% of municipalities without specific caravan policies to adopt more inclusive frameworks. Continued use of NRCP dialogue sessions to promote culturally appropriate housing solutions could help build trust and protect communities from discriminatory local measures.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

PROGRESS REPORTED: The Netherlands has strengthened its institutional capacity by expanding the NRCP from one to five staff members. The NRCP facilitates sustainable dialogue sessions (at a cost of EUR 40 000) and manages the Roma and Sinti knowledge platform[268] (EUR 115 076), which shares expertise with policymakers and social workers. In 2024, the national coordinator against discrimination and racism (NCDR)[269] conducted consultations with community members to provide information for the multi-year national plan. Multiple CSOs remain actively engaged in the design and monitoring of the national Roma strategic frameworks and local plans. Local cooperation is expanding, though there are currently no formal ties with equality bodies.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Roma and Sinti CSOs are invited to policy discussions, but participation is largely symbolic due to limited support. Anti-discrimination laws do not explicitly cover ethnicity, and there is no mechanism for CSOs to monitor or assist victims of hate crimes. Dialogue with ministries is infrequent, and the NRCP mainly provides information without Roma staff. A dedicated system to track antigypsyism and ensure meaningful CSO involvement is needed.

ASSESSMENT: The Netherlands has strengthened its institutional framework, through the expansion of the NRCP and support for dialogue platforms, providing a solid basis for cooperation. Building on this progress, consideration could be given to formalising cooperation with equality bodies, thereby moving from consultation to more structured partnerships. While the increase in the NRCP's capacity is a positive step, its role remains largely consultative, without involvement in the programming or management of Union funds. Consideration could also be given to expanding its role to cover funding processes, which could make policy better reflect Roma and Sinti priorities. At local level, shifting from enforcement-focused approaches towards more inclusive, community-based initiatives involving Roma and Sinti in implementation could help bridge persistent trust gaps.

PROMISING PRACTICE

The national education support to Traveller, Roma, and Sinti children (OWRS) project serves as a vital bridge for educational inclusion in the Netherlands. Operating on a budget of EUR 167 674 for 2023-2025, it provides a highly accessible helpdesk for schools needing guidance on supporting Roma and Sinti pupils. Beyond information sharing, OWRS facilitates essential networking between national policymakers and frontline professionals. It specifically aims to raise awareness among staff regarding Roma history and culture while providing tools to combat antigypsyism.

[268] Available at: https://www.kis.nl/themas/nederlandse-sinti-roma.
[269] Available at: https://www.bureauncdr.nl.

Table 19 - Austria

Austria	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	Austria's National Roma Strategic Framework (updated 2021)[270]. It outlines priority areas, including Combating antigypsyism, education, employment, empowerment of Roma women and girls, youth and civil society.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates	Council of Europe estimates: 25 000 Roma living in Austria (0.3% of the population)[271].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Federal Chancellery of Austria, Department for Ethnic Groups (Volksgruppen).[272]
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP, forms part of the Department for Ethnic Groups (Volksgruppen) of the Federal Chancellery. It does not have its own budget. The implementation of measures included in the national Roma strategy fall under the responsibility of the stakeholders and their individual budgets. The NRCP operates with just one employee and is responsible for coordinating the national Roma strategy, its implementation, and reporting to external stakeholders. It is involved in drafting and reporting on policy papers covering Roma-specific topics under the responsibility of other public actors. The NRCP provides consultancy and expertise on Roma-related matters while striving to strengthen its role in the administration and among the stakeholders.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Key achievements include: i) the publication of an 'anti-racism strategy for public services' with a view to combating antigypsyism in public services, ii) the annual focus topic of program ERINNERN: Austria[273] dedicated to the genocide of Roma and Sinti which has led to development of new teaching materials, iii) the establishment of a working group on Travellers that contributes to a better understanding between Travellers and local municipalities, iv) the establishment of 2 August as national Roma holocaust remembrance day, v) the amendment of the National Fund Act[274] in order to provide further impetus to the establishment of a Roma genocide memorial and ensuring that the graves of Roma holocaust victims are properly maintained, and vi) the allocation of public funding to a dedicated Roma radio programme in which members of the community can address self-selected topics in their native language. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** In 2023 and 2024, Parliament celebrated, International Roma Day and National Minorities Day, with the involvement of Roma organisations. In 2023, the federal ministry of culture, arts, public administration and sports established a 'Competence centre for diversity, anti-racism, and anti-discrimination (KDA)[275] . In 2024 the KDA, in collaboration with representatives of civil society organisations, developed an Anti-Racism Strategy for that ministry The DSA-Begleitgesetz 2024 (Digital Services Act)[276] boosted protection against online hate. The most recent antigypsyism report was published in 2017. The Austrian government has not adopted an anti-racism plan. There are still no advisory councils on antigypsyism or Roma media representation. Discrimination persists in education, housing, and employment. Roma-related educational materials to combat prejudice remain insufficiently disseminated in schools, and antigypsyism incidents lack a dedicated category in hate crime statistics. **ASSESSMENT**: Austria has made progress in combating antigypsyism through several measures, including the	

[270] Available at: https://www.bundeskanzleramt.gv.at/themen/volksgruppen/roma-strategie.html
[271] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[272] Available at: National Ethnic Minority Groups - Federal Chancellery of Austria.
[273] Available at: Lehren und Lernen über den Nationalsozialismus und Holocaust.
[274] Available at: ERV_2001_1_12.pdf.
[275] Available at: Fight Against Racism and Discrimination – BMEIA - Außenministerium Österreich
[276] Available at: Digital Services Act - BMJ.

recognition of 2 August as the national Roma Holocaust Remembrance Day, the publication of an anti-racism strategy for public service, and enhanced protection against online hate through the DSA-Begleitgesetz 2024. Building on these achievements, further efforts could focus on developing a comprehensive national action plan against racism and antigypsyism. Austria's approach to combating discrimination would be boosted by establishing the advisory councils provided for in in the NRSF, improving awareness-raising and training across public institutions, and introducing a dedicated category for antigypsyism incidents in hate crime statistics.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: The most significant measure was the specific funding approach for Roma empowerment on the labour market. Another welcome measure was the introduction of a compulsory final year of pre-school education free of charge helping children from poverty-affected households into the educational system and providing an opportunity to address potential obstacles to a successful school start, including language development and social skills. During the pre-school year 2022/2023, 99.1% of children of pre-school in Austria attended creche or equivalent establishment. The current government programme intends to extend this measure to two compulsory pre-school years.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Poverty-reduction measures have had no meaningful impact on Roma. Roma in Austria continue to face poverty and material insecurity. A significant number live in highly precarious conditions, especially in the western provinces, relying heavily on low-threshold services such as Caritas contact projects or support from CSOs, which are not recognised by the NRSF. Homeless Roma immigrants are particularly vulnerable, often falling through gaps in Austria's social welfare system. Beyond material and social hardships, many Roma have an unfavourable legal status that excludes them from social support programmes. Poverty requires a cross-sectoral and holistic approach, which the NRSF does not yet provide.

ASSESSMENT: Austria has made progress in empowering Roma but combating poverty requires a cross-sectoral approach. Many Roma — particularly homeless individuals and those failing to meet eligibility requirements — fall through gaps in the social welfare system. The absence of Roma-specific social-support strategies at regional and municipal level, and the failure to formally recognise low-threshold civil society services in the NRSF, represent a major shortfall in policy that risks leaving the most vulnerable Roma behind. Expanding the scope of the NRSF and providing dedicated support for organisations working on the ground would strengthen the country's approach.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Key achievements include the continued operation of the Roma dialogue platform (RDP)[277] which is an important instrument for Roma participation, with three meetings held on education, cultural identity and empowerment. The amendment of the National Fund Act in 2023 enabled the establishment of a Roma dialogue platform (RDP) for the development of a Roma memorial, ensuring Roma participation in the development process under the guidance of historical experts of the national fund (Nationalfonds)[278]. Throughout this process, the National Minority Advisory Council for Roma has been consistently included in preparing and running the RDP.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: The RDP is a positive measure but reaches only a narrow segment of the Roma community. Although representatives of Roma associations take part in the RDP, CSOs report that, in practice, Roma have little real influence on the final decisions made. They have no impact on the selection of topics or the outcomes of discussions. Only 36%[279] of Roma in Austria are aware of the NRSF. More public campaigns and broader outreach are needed. They also argue that more school projects and cultural events promoting dialogue between Roma and the majority population would be beneficial.

ASSESSMENT: Austria has demonstrated institutional commitment to Roma participation with the RDP and the Roma holocaust memorial process. However, formal participation has not yet translated into meaningful influence on policy. Commitments would have a better chance of tangible success if we i) Strengthen Roma co-determination within existing mechanisms, ii) significantly expanded outreach to the broader Roma community, and iii) invested in cultural and educational initiatives that foster dialogue with the population as a whole.

[277] Available at: Datenbank "Integrationsprojekte in Österreich" - Integrationsprojekte Österreich.
[278] Available at: https://www.nationalfonds.org.
[279] Available at: https://www.romacivilmonitoring.eu/countries/austria/.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Key achievements include i) national minority funding for Roma education and inclusion projects[280], ii) the continuation of Romani language education in Burgenland, iii) the development of a Gurbet[281] teaching book in Vienna, and iv) the inclusion of Roma in the Forum *Minderheitenschulwesen*[282] (Forum on Minority Education). The introduction of new school curricula explicitly mentioning Roma exhibitions in Parliament, including one on Romani language and high-profile events to mark the 30th anniversary of Roma recognition as a national minority, helped raise the profile of the Roma community. A travelling exhibition on Romani language, displayed in the Austrian Parliament[283] and freely accessible to the public, was an important milestone. Two Roma school mediators are currently active in Viennese schools, and Romani language classes are offered in Burgenland, though pupil numbers remain low.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: One positive step was the development of teaching materials for Romani language classes, by the Burgenland school directorate. Projects such as learning support programmes and Roma school mediation continue to be implemented. CSOs argue these should be structurally strengthened with long-term funding to better support Roma children. Roma children are overrepresented in *Sonderschulen* (special schools), primarily because of language barriers and because teacher may lack sensitivity. Awareness-raising workshops for teachers and school staff would help reduce prejudice and raise awareness of the problems faced by Roma children. Formal education and preschool attendance rates among Roma are significantly low, with early school dropout remaining a critical issue that has yet to be properly tackled.

ASSESSMENT: Austria has made some progress in promoting Roma culture, language and history in the education system through a range of targeted initiatives, supported by National Minority funding and high-profile initiatives. Building on these efforts, further attention could be given to addressing the structural challenges highlighted by civil society, including the overrepresentation of Roma children in special schools, low preschool attendance rates, and early school dropout. Progress could be consolidated by providing sustained funding for existing initiatives such as learning-support programmes and Roma school mediation and strengthening early childhood education participation.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: The most significant achievement was the Ministry of Labour's Roma-specific funding until 2030 to empower Roma on the labour market, a scheme intended to create more accessible financial support for smaller organisations. The projects funded follow a holistic approach, addressing not only skills and education but also other barriers to employment such as health issues, childcare responsibilities and difficult housing situations. EUR 10 million has been allocated for the period from 2022 to 2030, with each project funded with approximately EUR 250,000 over two years. So far, 19 projects have been awarded funding, 9 successfully concluded and 10 in progress.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Since January 2023, the Ministry of Labour has been financing up to 10 two-year projects aimed at increasing Roma employment until 2030, a measure welcomed by CSOs. However, the Public Employment Service (PES) has no programmes specifically targeting Roma employment and is not connected to the organisations running Ministry-funded labour market projects. CSOs argue that, as the first point of contact for employers and job seekers, better use should be made of the PES's potential. They also call for improved access to information on training courses, education support programmes and diploma recognition, and for the expansion of skills training and qualification measures for socially and economically disadvantaged Roma, particularly Roma women.

ASSESSMENT: Austria's Roma-specific labour market funding approach, which offers a holistic and accessible model for Roma empowerment, is a significant achievement. However, PES — the main point of contact for employers and job seekers — lacks Roma-specific programmes and is not coordinated with Ministry-funded projects, shortfall

[280] Available at: https://www.bundeskanzleramt.gv.at/themen/volksgruppen/volksgruppen-foerderung.html.
[281] Available at: http://romaniprojekt.uni-graz.at/varieties-gurbet.en.html.
[282] Available at: https://www.bmb.gv.at/Themen/schule/schulpraxis/ba/sprabi/minderheitenschulwesen.html and https://www.oesz.at/netzwerke/minderheitenschulwesen/.
[283] Available at: https://www.parlament.gv.at/aktuelles/pk/jahr_2023/pk1388 and https://akademie-graz.at/programme/das-oesterreichische-romanes/.

that needs to be rectified. Austria is encouraged to strengthen coordination between the PES and Roma-led organisations, improve access to information on training and qualification opportunities, and expand skills training for socially and economically disadvantaged Roma, focusing on Roman women in particular.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Austria did not report on this objective.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: No progress has been made in improving the health of the Roma population. Many Roma fall through the gaps of healthcare and social welfare systems due to strict eligibility requirements relating to citizenship, residency status, and length of stay, a situation compounded by low health literacy, language barriers, and exclusion from targeted support in the NRSF. CSOs call for the training and deployment of health mediators from within Roma communities, the development of low-threshold outreach services, stronger links between public health services and civil-society structures, and public-private partnerships to improve access to inclusive healthcare for Roma.

ASSESSMENT: While Austria has not yet included health as a dedicated objective in its national strategy, the current strategy revision presents an opportunity to rectify this. Austria could consider the training and deployment of health mediators from within Roma communities and the development of low-threshold outreach services. Strengthening links between public health services and civil-society structures, and formally recognising the role of civil-society organisations in health service delivery, would help ensure that Roma — including those with precarious legal status — could effectively access quality healthcare and social services

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Austria did not report on this objective.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: No new nationwide Roma-specific housing initiatives were introduced, and no significant results were achieved. The only noteworthy development was the publication of the SORA study, which revealed a high level of discrimination in the rental housing market[284]. There is currently no targeted housing initiative for Roma in Austria. Housing services remain difficult to access for many Roma due to legal and social obstacles, language barriers, and general discrimination. CSOs call for further research, the development of a dedicated housing strategy, and the expansion of housing counselling services for Roma.

ASSESSMENT: The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Just Transition Fund (JTF) in Austria do not fund measures for Sinti and Roma communities in the areas of housing and essential services. The absence of a dedicated housing objective in Austria's national strategy, combined with the lack of Roma-specific housing initiatives is a serious problem that needs to be addressed. The SORA study's findings on discrimination in the rental housing market underline the need for targeted action. Essential steps for Austria to take include: i) developing a dedicated housing strategy for Roma, ii) expanding housing counselling services, and iii) addressing the legal and social obstacles and language barriers that prevent Roma from accessing adequate housing

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

[284] Available at: 23006 Endbericht Testingstudie Wohnungsmarkt.

REPORTED PROGRESS: Roma civil society took part in the Sensiro evaluation study (2021-2022)[285], nearly 400 Roma were interviewed, and a nationwide Roma network was created. Based on the results, the national strategy is currently being revised. The national Roma dialogue platform (RDP), established in 2012, met three times during the reporting period, covering the topics of 'the language Romanes - language and identity', ERINNERN: Austria on the Genocide on Roma and Sinti, and Roma empowerment and the role of media. Considering the recent developments, the NRCP launched a round table with representatives from municipalities and Roma civil society on the topic of travelling communities, with three meetings held since October 2024. Roma and pro-Roma CSOs are regularly involved in the implementation, monitoring and revision of the strategy**.**

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Roma NGOs had limited involvement in the design, implementation, monitoring, and review of the NRSF. Their main formal participation is through the RDP, organised by the NRCP, but their influence on policy formulation and final decisions remains limited. There are no individuals or associations from the Roma community on the teams in public institutions responsible for NRSF processes. The Federal Chancellery's Roma minority advisory board, established in 1995, exists but is not directly involved in NRSF processes beyond participation in the dialogue platform. Regarding hate crime and hate speech, networks such as Hatecrimekontern[286] and the No Hate Speech Komitee[287] include Roma organisations actively engaging in awareness-raising and anti-discrimination campaigns.

ASSESSMENT: Austria has established meaningful structures for Roma participation, including the Roma dialogue platform and the Sensiro evaluation process. However, such participation has not led to genuine influence on policy. The current strategy revision presents an ideal opportunity to move from consultation to co-determination, ensuring Roma organisations play a real role in shaping, monitoring and evaluating the NRSF. Institutionalising Roma involvement beyond the RDP would deliver more inclusive and effective Roma policies.

PROMISING PRACTICES

One considerable achievement was the amendment of the National Fund Act in 2023, whereby the *Nationalfonds* was put in charge of building a Roma Holocaust memorial in Vienna. The process is conducted through a dedicated dialogue platform ensuring active Roma community participation, with Roma CSOs closely involved in all stages of the memorial's development. This measure combines historical recognition, institutional commitment and meaningful Roma participation.

[285] Available at: https://sensiro.univie.ac.at and https://sensiro.univie.ac.at/strategie/.
[286] Available at: https://hatecrimekontern.at/.
[287] Available at: https://www.nohatespeech.at/ .

Table 20 - Poland

Poland	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	In 2020, Poland introduced its national Roma strategic framework (NRSF), entitled 'programme for the social and civic integration of the Roma community in Poland 2021-2030'[288], building upon earlier strategic frameworks (2004-2013, 2014-2020)[289].
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	Polish census 2021: 17 049. Estimates from Roma organisations and researchers: 25,000 – 35,000. Council of Europe estimates: approximately 32 500 (0.09% of the population)[290]. The Roma community in Poland comprises five main groups: Polska Roma (Polish Roma), Romowie Karpaccy (Carpathian/Bergitka Roma), Kełderasze, Lowarzy, and Sinti. It is estimated that between 15 000 and 20 000 Roma refugees from Ukraine are currently living in Poland.[291]
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Ministry of Interior and Administration (MSWiA)
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP reported an annual budget of EUR 2.5 million for 2023-2025. It employs just one person, who coordinates and monitors the implementation of the NRSF, contributing to its design and development in all areas of intervention. The NRCP also manages dedicated funds and reports once a year on implementation. The ministry (MSWiA) works with various stakeholders, including the ministry of national education for educational tasks, 'voivodes' acting as regional coordinators, local government units, CSOs, and others. The ministry of development funds and regional policy oversees EU fund programming and monitoring.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: The national action programme for equal treatment 2022-2030[292] and the NRSF provide the main foundation for monitoring and preventing hate crimes against Roma in Poland. Under this objective, the national police, the ministry of justice and the government plenipotentiary for equal treatment are tasked with providing training for police officers on hate crimes against Roma, analysing legislation and coordinating activities aimed at equal treatment **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** While CSOs acknowledge the general protections provided in the Penal Code, they report that there are no specific legal provisions governing antigypsyism, which currently falls under general national or ethnic discrimination. There is also no specific definition of the term, which means the strategy treats discrimination a sa generic catch-all rather than a nuanced term that incorporates a number of distinct areas that need to be addressed. The CSOs argue that this makes targeted action more difficult. Additionally, while Roma	

[288] Programme for Social and Civic Integration of the Roma Community in Poland for 2021-2030. 2020. https://www.gov.pl/attachment/2f8296d9-80d5-4236-a6a8-3e22260e38f1.
[289] Programme for the Integration of the Roma Community in Poland for the period 2014-2020. 2014. https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/poland_national_integration_strategy_2014-2020_en.pdf
[290] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[291] Experiences of Roma Community from Ukraine in Accessing Government Assistance and Services in Poland.
[292] National Action Programme for Equal Treatment for the years 2022-2030. 2022. Available at: Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy - Gov.pl website.

representatives have voting rights in regional application evaluation committees, there is a perceived need to move beyond project-based consultation towards deeper involvement in the design of EU-funded programmes where the NRCP currently has no role.

ASSESSMENT: Poland could go further in combating antigypsyism by ensuring that non-discrimination is a dedicated policy area supported by targeted funding and measurable actions. The adoption of an official definition of antigypsyism could provide a clearer basis for recognising and tackling anti-Roma discrimination within existing legal and institutional frameworks. Building on the existing network of police plenipotentiaries for the protection of human rights may also help improve responses to anti-Roma hate crime through specialised training and awareness raising. In parallel, Roma participation could be reinforced through more systematic involvement in the planning and monitoring of ESF+ programmes.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Since 2001, Poland has taken steps to reduce the social exclusion of Roma, with progress made in Roma mobilisation, participation and self-organisation. The NRSF provides for targeted interventions in education and decent housing, prioritising the improvement of Roma families' situations through programme benefits such as the Family 800+[293], Good Start[294], and Mother 4+[295] which support Roma families alongside the general population. However, post-elementary schooling remains a concern, hindering socio-economic prospects.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: According to CSOs, many Roma continue to face systemic barriers and live in semi-segregated settlements. They also emphasise the need to expand support programmes and dedicated funding, including Roma assistant programmes and dedicated support for Ukrainian Roma refugees and Roma seniors, who are marginalised to an even greater extent than the general Roma population.

ASSESSMENT: Poland could build on existing social inclusion measures by placing greater emphasis on support during the transition to post-elementary education, which remains vital for improving long-term employment and socio-economic outcomes for Roma. Continued development of ESF+ interventions may also provide opportunities to strengthen pathways towards sustainable employment. At the same time, expanding targeted support for groups facing multiple forms of exclusion, including Roma seniors and Ukrainian Roma refugees, could further enhance the inclusiveness of current policies. Reviewing the accessibility and impact of housing assistance may also help ensure that the most vulnerable Roma families can benefit properly from available support.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Roma and pro-Roma CSOs are actively involved in the NRSF's projects and application assessment committees, alongside government institutions, and regional and local authorities. They also form part of the joint committee of government and national and ethnics minorities, and the Roma affairs team. At local level, they contribute to initiatives such as Roma school mediators, daycare centres and cultural events, while existing strategies in municipal and voivodeship levels contribute to addressing specific community needs. Roma CSOs also implement NRSF-funded projects.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight advancements in Roma participation. They call for greater support for and involvement of Roma CSOs in decision-making, and measures to address burnout among active Roma leaders and encourage new community representatives to come forward.

ASSESSMENT: To further advance Roma participation in Poland, continued efforts are needed to move beyond project-based consultation towards more institutionalised and structured representation in broader decision-making processes. While existing mechanisms, such as regional committees are to be welcomed, their scope could be expanded to areas such as the programming of Union funds. Support for Roma civil society organisations should also be strengthened, alongside targeted capacity-building to mentor emerging activists, diversify leadership, and reduce reliance on a limited number of established representatives.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

[293] Available at: https://www.gov.pl/web/family/family-800.
[294] Available at: https://www.gov.pl/web/family/good-start.
[295] Available at: https://www.gov.pl/web/family/parental-supplementary-benefit-mother-4-started-off.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Education remains a central priority in Poland's NRSF, with census data (2011-2021) indicating significant progress: the share of Roma attaining higher education increased from 2.03% to 13.42%. Key achievements include a stable network of approximately 80 Roma school mediators, widely regarded as one of the most effective tools for improving school attendance and engagement, and a marked reduction in the overrepresentation of Roma pupils in special schools. The scholarship system addresses financial barriers across all education levels, with 120 scholarships awarded in 2023 and 109 in 2024. Most beneficiaries at post-secondary level are women, primarily from the Bergitka Roma group. Roma NGOs play an active role in implementation through integration projects and daycare services, while mediators - over 75% of whom are women - serve as vital links between communities and schools.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: While some progress has been made in school attendance and the prevention of early dropout, concerns remain regarding low participation in preschool education and persistent early school leaving. CSOs emphasise the need for additional support for Roma children with limited Polish skills or from migrant/refugee backgrounds, and for comprehensive data collection on educational outcomes to inform policymaking effectively.

ASSESSMENT: Poland is encouraged to build on the progress made in education, by increasing preschool access and attendance and reducing early school leaving. Continued support through Roma school mediators and scholarship schemes provides a strong foundation and could be aided by more tailored guidance during key transitions, especially from primary to secondary education. Inclusiveness would be improved by expanding support for pupils with limited Polish skills, including Roma children from migrant or refugee backgrounds. Strengthening data collection and monitoring systems would support more evidence-based policymaking. Ongoing cooperation with Roma NGOs and inclusive educational practices can further contribute to equitable and sustainable outcomes.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: In Poland, access to employment opportunities for Roma is largely supported by ESF+ funding, which serves as the main policy tool for labour market integration. Progress is reflected in approximately 100 people being employed annually through programme projects and around 200 people benefiting each year from subsidised employment, training or courses. Vocational and pro-vocational education remains a key focus, with nearly 300 participants recorded in 2024.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs welcome the progress that has been made, e.g. local employment projects, vocational training, job placement support and Roma assistants supporting job seekers. However, under-employment persists among Roma as a result of low education levels and discrimination on the labour market. CSOs also emphasise the need for expanded employment support services and targeted training.

ASSESSMENT: Poland demonstrates continued commitment to Roma labour market integration through ESF+-funded measures supporting employment, training and vocational education. These initiatives provide a solid framework but their impact on sustainable employment remains limited, partly because the same individuals repeatedly take part in project-based activities. Strengthening pathways into regular employment would enhance effectiveness. Further work is needed to improve outreach and uptake by helping NGOs, local authorities and social institutions to access available funds. Attention should also be given to supporting Roma refugees from Ukraine.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Poland continues to implement targeted measures to improve Roma health through the NRSF, focusing primarily on health education, prevention and awareness raising. Participation in health-related activities increased from 541 beneficiaries in 2023 to 950 in 2024. Measures promote healthy lifestyles, improve access to healthcare services and provide psychosocial support, including for adults as part of lifelong learning. These efforts build on earlier vaccination and prevention programmes. Implementation involves cooperation between national authorities, local governments and NGOs, and supporting outreach at community level. While progress is noted, challenges remain, including lower life expectancy linked to lifestyle and long-term social exclusion.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge progress in healthcare coverage and vaccination rates

among Roma children. However, as Roma communities continue to face poorer health outcomes and limited access to healthcare, the CSOs also call for research into Roma health and the inclusion of Roma health measures in national programmes.

ASSESSMENT: Poland is encouraged to strengthen its approach by complementing existing prevention and health education measures with more targeted measures to address the specific needs of Roma communities. Expanding research on Roma health and improving data collection would contribute to evidence-based policymaking. Further integration of Roma-specific health measures into national health programmes - alongside continued investment in vaccination, health promotion and disease prevention initiatives - would help tackle persistent health inequalities and improve access to healthcare, including for Roma refugees from Ukraine.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRSF prioritises improving housing conditions, particularly in areas where living conditions pose risks to health or safety, focusing on the most vulnerable families. Support is provided through local projects addressing structural challenges such as social housing shortages and unstable incomes, which often have knock-on effects in terms of school attendance, payment of housing costs and professional activity. A regional task force has been established to address the situation in the Roma settlement of Maszkowice. Measures are implemented by local authorities and monitored at regional level by voivodeship offices. In 2024, 526 Roma people benefited from housing-related measures. Other solutions, such as support for access to housing on the secondary market, are also being explored.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight ongoing marginalization and spatial segregation of Roma, who continue to face poor housing conditions, and legal and administrative challenges. They also call for integrated strategies, increased involvement of local and central authorities, and active participation of Roma in decision-making regards housing.

ASSESSMENT: Poland is encouraged to continue using the ERDF and broader cohesion policy support to improve social and housing infrastructure. While these instruments help improve living conditions for disadvantaged groups, including Roma, access is variable between different programmes and often depends on general eligibility criteria. As housing measures are frequently implemented as mainstream rather than Roma-targeted actions, their impact on Roma communities can be indirect. Ensuring that investments are better targeted and that Roma needs are more explicitly reflected in programme design would lead to fairer housing outcomes.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRES: Poland's NRSF has strengthened partnerships and institutional capacity through several mechanisms. Voivodes' plenipotentiaries for national and ethnic minorities regularly meet local stakeholders, including Roma CSOs, to assess community needs. Roma representatives also participate in evaluation committees and consultation meetings organised by the ministry of the interior and administration, to assess the effectiveness of measures and cooperation with authorities. Continued cooperation with Roma CSOs has increased self-organisation and participation in state activities at local, regional and central levels. A financial subsidy system helps CSOs to work with national and ethnic minorities, with a view to boosting capacity building and leadership in Roma organisations.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report limited influence in policymaking, token input and minimal involvement in the NRSF's development. They also underline the importance of holding local authorities accountable, particularly in housing and the need for long-term predictable funding and a flexible framework to ensure activity continuity and responsiveness to crises.

ASSESSMENT: To strengthen Roma inclusion in Poland, authorities should move beyond consultative engagement by ensuring Roma CSOs have meaningful influence in the design and implementation of the NRSF. They should also be involved in ESF+ programming and participate in monitoring committees overseeing the implementation of ESF+. Civil society participation would be helped by ensuring the accountability of local authorities, particularly in housing, and by establishing long-term, predictable funding schemes. A more flexible policy framework and continued investment in Roma leadership and organizational capacity are also needed to ensure continuity and effective crisis response.

PROMISING PRACTICES
Under the programme for social and civic integration of the Roma community in Poland for 2021-2030, Poland achieved significant progress in education. Examples of success include the reduction of Roma pupils' overrepresentation in special schools and the increase in higher education attainment from 2.03% in 2011 to 13.42% in 2021. Central to this progress is the scholarship programme, which provides targeted financial support for primary, secondary and university students. Recognised by civil society and the NRCP as a 'most promising practice', it helps reduce financial barriers and supports Roma youth. These measures are backed by an annual budget of approximately EUR 2.5 million, active Roma CSO involvement, and the permanent employment of around 80 Roma school mediators promoting attendance and inclusive education[296].

[296] Available at: https://www.gov.pl/web/mniejszosci-narodowe-i-etniczne/programy-integracji-spolecznosci-romskiej.

Table 21 - Portugal

Portugal	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	The most recent National Roma Strategic Framework (ENICC) expired in 2023 -– National Strategy for the Integration of Roma Communities[297] Some programmes continued to be implemented during the whole reporting period. In early April 2026 the Government announced a new ENICC would be adopted soon.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	24 210 (National Study on Roma Communities) [298] Council of Europe estimates: approximately 40 000-70 000 (0.52% of the population)[299].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Agency for Integration, Migration and Asylum - AIMA, I.P.
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP is responsible for coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the National Roma Strategic Framework. It has a dedicated team of six employees and plays an active role in mainstreaming Roma issues in social inclusion policies and universal services. The NRCP coordinates key national programmes, including the Roma associations support programme (PAAC)[300], the national strategy support fund (FAPE)[301], Roma Educa[302], OPRE[303] and ROMED[304]. However, its role remains consultative in both the design of social-inclusion policies and decision-making on EU funds programming and monitoring, and it is not a full member of the monitoring committees. The NRCP participates in Roma inclusion mainstreaming at regional and local level, including through the local Roma integration plans developed in partnership with 19 municipalities, and the network of municipalities for Roma inclusion.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Portugal reported progress in combating antigypsyism through Roma-focused initiatives implemented under programmes such as PAAC and FAPE, promoting equal opportunities, citizenship education and mediation, and combating discrimination. Between 2023 and 2025, 65 training courses on Roma history and culture were given to 1340 participants, including education professionals, security forces, health and social services staff, and other public-service workers. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY**: CSOs acknowledge efforts to tackle antigypsyism, including through the Escolhas[305] [Choices] programme — now in its ninth generation — which with Roma community involvement supports awareness-raising, deconstruction of stereotypes and combating discrimination and has been particularly effective in its work with Roma children. However, CSOs point out that antigypsyism remains prevalent, including	

[297] Available at: https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/7fb47f06-aad5-407d-8126-78024941fe2d_en?filename=roma_portugal_strategy2_en.pdf .
[298] According to National Study on Roma Communities. Manuela Mendes; Olga Magano; Pedro Candeias, *Estudo nacional sobre as Comunidades Ciganas*, ACM, I.P., Lisboa, 2014. You can access the study via the following link: https://repositorio.iscte-iul.pt/bitstream/10071/15587/1/estudonacionalsobreascomunidadesciganas.pdf .
[299] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[300] The Roma Associations Support Programme (PAAC) was established in 2017 to strengthen the involvement of civil society (namely Roma communities) in the implementation of national Roma framework.
[301] Available at: https://aima.gov.pt/pt/noticias/6-a-edicao-do-fape-resultados-finais.
[302] Available at: https://aima.gov.pt/pt/noticias/resultados-finais-roma-educa.
[303] Available at: https://aima.gov.pt/pt/noticias/9-a-edicao-opre-candidaturas-ate-20-de-dezembro-de-2024.
[304] Available at: https://coe-romed.org/tags/portugal.
[305] Available at: Programa Escolhas - IPDJ.

through hate speech on social media and by far-right politicians, with 48% of Roma respondents saying that they had suffered hate-motivated harassment[306]. CSOs stress the need for stronger national campaigns to combat negative narratives and for greater awareness of the Commission for Equality and Against Racial Discrimination (CICDR) and its role in combating discrimination

ASSESSMENT: Portugal has taken steps to address antigypsyism through targeted initiatives, capacity-building and awareness-raising, including 65 training courses attended by 1340 people. However, antigypsyism remains prevalent, with 48% of Roma respondents reporting hate-motivated harassment. Strengthening national campaigns to counter negative narratives — particularly in social media and public discourse — and raising the profile among Roma communities of the CICDR would strengthen Portugal's approach to combating discrimination and improving access to redress mechanisms.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Portugal did not report on this objective

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge the adoption of the National Strategy to Combat Poverty (ENCP) and its Action Plan[307], but report no significant progress in reducing poverty and social exclusion among Roma during the reporting period. They highlight the absence of ethnicity-disaggregated statistical data and the lack of a Roma-specific objective within the strategy and argue that effective measures should address the structural causes of poverty affecting Roma communities.

ASSESSMENT: In 2023, Portugal adopted the ENCP, which provided robust framework for addressing poverty and social exclusion, to be implemented through two action plans covering 2022–2025 and 2026–2030. However, no progress has been reported in reducing poverty and social exclusion among Roma, and the strategy does not include a Roma-specific objective. The absence of ethnicity-disaggregated data limits monitoring and targeted action. Strengthening implementation through measures that address the structural causes of poverty and better reflect the specific needs of Roma communities would improve outcomes for Roma.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Key achievements under this objective include support for projects through the PAAC and FAPE programmes, promotion of Roma women speech circles initiatives[308] in 2023 and 2024, and the delivery of training and awareness-raising sessions on Roma history and culture. Low Roma participation in targeted projects and events was identified as a challenge, to which Roma associations and CSOs responded by prioritising participation, including through initiatives promoting women's active involvement, encouraging Roma to vote, and social media outreach.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight the role of the consultative council for the integration of Roma communities (CONCIG)[309] in facilitating dialogue and Roma community participation, and the contribution of initiatives such as PAAC and FAPE to civic engagement. CSOs emphasise the importance of i) ensuring CONCIG's continuity and reinforcing its role and member commitment, ii) further developing the financial and training capacity of Roma associations, and iii) approving a *contrato de carreira* [formal career structure] for intercultural mediators to address their precarious employment conditions.

ASSESSMENT: Portugal has made progress in Roma participation through the CONCIG, PAAC, and FAPE and targeted community initiatives. Boosting the CONCIG, alongside stable funding and capacity-building for Roma associations, would consolidate these gains. Ensuring that intercultural mediators — highlighted by civil society — have a formal career structure would be a helpful step towards addressing their precarious employment conditions, which would boost their contribution to dialogue between Roma communities and public institutions.

[306] European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights – Roma Survey 2024.available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/2025/roma-survey-2024.
[307] Available at: Estratégia Nacional de Combate à Pobreza: Governo apresenta mais de 270 medidas - XXIII Governo Constitucional.
[308] Available at: Novo Programa de Debate entre Mulheres Ciganas - Agência para o Desenvolvimento e Coesão.
[309] Portal Autárquico - Conselho Consultivo para a Integração das Comunidades Ciganas (CONCIG).

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Portugal reported continued progress in the Roma Educa[310] and OPRE[311] scholarship programmes. OPRE is aimed at higher-education students from Roma communities, providing university scholarships, training, mentoring and monitoring support for scholarship holders and their families, with the overall aim of preventing early dropout. Roma Educa aims to reduce barriers between Roma and the formal education system, by supporting the education of Roma children and young people and preventing early school leaving. Between 2023 and 2025, 777 applications were received, and 420 scholarships were awarded under Roma Educa.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge progress in improving access to education for Roma students through programmes including OPRE, Roma Educa and the educational territories of priority intervention programme. However, they note that discrimination in education persists, with only 8% of Roma aged 20 - 24 having attained at least upper secondary education, compared to 85% for non-Roma. CSOs call for wider dissemination of successful programmes such as OPRE and Roma Educa to reach more Roma students and highlight the prevalence of hate-motivated bullying and harassment of Roma pupils in schools.

ASSESSMENT: Portugal has developed targeted initiatives to support Roma students' participation and progression in education. However, deep inequalities persist - in 2024, only 8% of Roma youth aged 20–24 had completed upper secondary education, and 31% of Roma children and parents said they had experienced discrimination. The absence of a renewed National Roma Strategic Framework means there is no strategic direction and multiannual financial planning for Roma education measures. Expanding successful programmes such as OPRE and Roma Educa and strengthening anti-discrimination measures in schools would contribute to more inclusive learning environments and progress towards achieving EU-level education objectives.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: Portugal reported progress in promoting Roma access to employment through projects supported under PAAC and FAPE. The Roma women speech circles initiative contributed to women's empowerment and participation, while training and awareness-raising sessions on Roma history and culture were delivered to stakeholders. The '100 prejudice' project312 promoted a campaign with three messages from Roma community workers, and the 'Roma models II' project provided nine-month training courses on cleaning services for 12 Roma participants, promoting their employability. Despite these efforts, a significant gap in Roma employment access persists.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight that the previous calls under the operational programme supported employability through work-based experience, entrepreneurship and awareness-raising among employers. They note that a new call under Pessoas 2030 programme which is aimed at helping vulnerable groups to access the labour market. CSOs stress the need for i) stronger and more systematic engagement with employers to address persistent stereotypes and discrimination, ii) greater continuity beyond short-term project funding, and iii) increased investment in education and training to improve Roma access to sustainable employment.

ASSESSMENT: Portugal has implemented targeted initiatives to support Roma access to employment and labour market inclusion. However, only 21% of Roma declare paid work as their main activity, and the proportion of women in the labour market is very low[313]. Building on past experiences, priorities include strengthening employer awareness to address stereotypes and discriminatory practices and promoting access to the formal labour market. Moving from predominantly project-based measures towards more sustainable and integrated national approaches would support longer-term labour-market inclusion. Continued investment in education and training would help improve employability and narrow the significant employment gap

[310] Available at: programa-roma-educa_regulamento-7a-edicao.pdf.
[311] Available at: https://aima.gov.pt/media/pages/noticias/9-a-edicao-opre-candidaturas-ate-20-de-dezembro-de-2024/a2c70bd68a-1733256916/regulamentoopre_9aed.pdf.
[312] Example: Já conhece o projeto Gaia 100 Preconceito? - Cidadãos Ativos.
[313] Available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/project/2024/roma-survey-2024.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Portugal reported progress in supporting Roma health inclusion through the implementation of three projects funded under PAAC and four projects supported by FAPE. The projects focused mainly on awareness-raising campaigns and sessions for healthcare professionals and Roma communities. Training and awareness-raising sessions on Roma history and culture were also given to health professionals. The main challenges are: i) reducing the gap in life expectancy between Roma and the general population – estimated at around 6.5 years in Portugal and ii) improving effective access to healthcare.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs welcome the diversity and inclusion committee[314] established in Lisbon in 2019, which includes the only Roma mediator formally recognised within a hospital setting in Portugal. They view the committee as a positive step towards improving access and trust in healthcare services. They underline persistent challenges, including limited health literacy among Roma communities, the absence of updated and systematic data on Roma health outcomes, and the lack of a structured framework for the wider deployment of intercultural mediators. 37%[315] of Roma people reported experiencing discrimination in the healthcare sector, and around one-fifth of Roma women had never visited a gynaecologist.

ASSESSMENT: Portugal has taken initial steps to promote Roma inclusion in healthcare through targeted projects and awareness-raising initiatives. Further progress could be achieved by i) strengthening the evidence base on Roma health outcomes, ii) improving health literacy and health education, particularly for Roma women and girls, and iii) expanding the presence of Roma and intercultural mediators in healthcare settings, supported by a formalised career framework. Such measures would help reduce access barriers, improve communication with health providers, address discriminatory practices, and contribute to narrowing the persistent life expectancy gap between Roma and the rest of the population.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Portugal reported targeted actions to raise institutional awareness and improve local practices in the housing sector. Training on Roma history and culture was delivered to staff of the Institute for Housing and Urban Rehabilitation to promote greater sensitivity to the specific situations of Roma communities as well as the establishment of the Support Unit for Roma Communities (NACI)[316]. At local level, some municipalities — such as Paredes — implemented measures to improve housing conditions for Roma families, including the replacement of informal settlements with access to adequate social housing. These initiatives illustrate the potential impact of locally driven solutions when adequate support and coordination are in place.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: According to CSOs access to decent housing is the area in which progress has been slowest. Roma communities continue to face precarious living conditions characterised by i) territorial segregation, ii) discrimination in the rental housing market, iii) inadequate and overcrowded social housing, and iv) poor conditions in informal settlements without access to basic services. The expensive rental market further deters vulnerable groups, as also noted by the ECRI.[317]

ASSESSMENT: In terms of Roma inclusion in Portugal, the objective with the lowest achievement rate is housing. 78% of Roma in Portugal live in housing deprivation[318], compared to 33%[319] of the general population. While some municipalities have taken positive steps, persistent territorial segregation, discrimination in the rental market and rising housing prices continue to restrict access to adequate housing, including for Roma communities. A more systematic national approach is needed to deliver meaningful progress. Following the mid-term review, there has been an increase in ERDF investment in social and affordable housing, albeit not explicitly aimed at Roma. Further consideration could be given to targeting Roma communities in existing housing programmes.

[314] Available at: Comissão da Diversidade e Inclusão – ULS de São José.
[315] Available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/project/2024/roma-survey-2024.
[316] Available at: Núcleo de Apoio às Comunidades Ciganas (NACI) - gov.pt.
[317] Available at: European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) - Homepage - European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI).
[318] Available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/project/2024/roma-survey-2024.
[319] Available: Eurostat, (online data code tessi291), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/tessi291/default/table?lang=en.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY
REPORTED PROGRESS: At local level, the NRCP enabled Roma representatives and pro-Roma CSOs to take part in the design, implementation, monitoring and review of national Roma strategic frameworks and local action plans. The CONCIG comprising eight Roma associations, was responsible for monitoring implementation and reviewing the strategy until the last NRSF expired in 2023. Cooperation with local authorities through i) the local Roma integration plans320 developed in partnership with 19 municipalities and ii) the network of municipalities for Roma inclusion (MUPICC, comprising 35 municipalities)321, which were coordinated by the NRCP with a view to promoting good practices at local level. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs report that CONCIG has allowed Roma communities to monitor the strategy, but express concern that it is unclear whether this structure will continue under the new strategy. Some CONCIG members — ministries and public bodies — lacked sufficient knowledge of Roma communities, which hinders the effectiveness of dialogue and monitoring. Following the transfer of responsibilities for Roma inclusion to AIMA, CSOs note that the focus has shifted largely to migrants and away from Roma communities. The internal monitoring team still exists but has not been reinforced. CSOs call for Roma associations to be strengthened with sufficient financial and human resources to enable more effective lobbying and political participation. **ASSESSMENT:** Portugal's National Roma Integration Strategy (2013–2023) expired at the end of 2023. During the reporting period, Roma-related measures continued to be implemented through mainstream and targeted programmes, including support for Roma civil society, education, employment and participation. However, the absence of a renewed National Roma Strategic Framework poses challenges to consistency, coordination and systematic monitoring across policy areas. The adoption of an updated framework, developed through public consultation and aligned with the EU Roma Strategic Framework, would support continuity, clearer governance arrangements, stronger partnerships with Roma civil society and more consistent progress towards EU-level objectives.
PROMISING PRACTICES
The National Strategy for the Integration of Roma Communities 2013-2023 established a consultative council for the integration of Roma communities (CONCIG), comprising: i) representatives of seven ministries (internal administration, justice, economy and labour, housing, health, education, and solidarity and social security), ii) regional governments of Madeira and the Azores, iii) municipalities and civil parishes (third-level administrative units), iv) two civil society organisations, v) four Roma associations, vi) two higher education or research institutions, and vii) two individuals. It played an important role in monitoring the strategy with the participation of Roma. The Diversity and Inclusion Commission of the Local Health Unit of São José Hospital created in 2019, promotes inclusive and culturally sensitive healthcare practices. ULS São José was the first public hospital to sign the Portuguese Charter for Diversity.

[320] Available at: Apoio para planos locais de inclusão da população cigana em Lisboa - Portugal 2030.
[321] Available at: https://tinyurl.com/4en8svj5.

Table 22 - Romania

Romania	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	Strategy for the inclusion of Romanian citizens belonging to the Roma minority for the period 2021-2027[322]
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	569 500 (2021 Census of the Population and Households)[323]; Council of Europe estimates: approximately 1.85 million (8.32% of the population in 2012)[324]
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Ministry of Investments and European Projects.
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The Ministry of Investments and European Projects (MIEP) serves as NRCP in Romania. It was reported that the NRCP operated with a budget of EUR 203 653 43 and two staff members, which leaves it inadequately resourced for its workload. Two bodies oversee the National Roma Strategy: the National Agency for Roma (NAR), which develops, implements, monitors and revises the strategy, and the NRCP, which monitors and evaluates the strategy alongside the NAR, relevant ministries and local authorities. The NRCP also participates in the Interministerial Committee for the Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation of the Strategy (CIIMES). In addition, the NRCP is involved in EU programme monitoring committees (one national and eight regional schemes). A key project implemented by the NRCP was an assessment of the impact of ESF-funded actions on Roma poverty and social inclusion during the 2014-2020 period, providing solid evidence on these actions for the development of public policies.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: The most significant anti-discrimination achievement was a collaborative project between the Romanian Police and the Civic Union of Young Roma (UCTRR) to combat hate crimes and build community trust. This initiative offered counselling and outreach to over 25 000 people, assisted approximately 1 000 individuals in obtaining identity documents, and provided institutionalised anti-discrimination training through hundreds of annual seminars for police and citizens. In addition to this, the Ministry of Education bolstered school inclusion by training nearly 100 educators in intercultural dialogue and embedding anti-segregation and human rights topics into teacher-training curricula. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** The COACH programme ('Countering Online Antigypsyism and Cyberhate', 2022-2024), which promoted positive narratives, helped establish dialogue networks between NGOs and authorities, and developed targeted staff training, has raised awareness and fostered dialogue to combat antigypsyism. However, efforts remain uneven, with no systematic inclusion of key sectors, such as health, justice and the media, and persistent gaps in legal frameworks, reporting mechanisms and responses to online antigypsyism. Furthermore, the lack of measurable indicators, continued underreporting of anti-Roma incidents, and insufficient action by digital platforms limit the overall effectiveness of measures to combat discrimination. **ASSESSMENT**: Romania has taken some concrete steps to tackle antigypsyism which, if scaled up and turned into long-term programmes, could help improve awareness and tackle discrimination. However, antigypsyism remains deeply rooted in historical legacies linked to Roma slavery and the Holocaust, which continue to be insufficiently reflected in public memory, education and institutional practice. Anti-Roma stereotypes and negative narratives remain	

[322] Romanian Strategy for the Inclusion of Romanian Citizens Belonging to the Roma Minority for the Period 2021-2027 (NRIS): https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/202210/1_1romania_national_roma_strategic_framework_2022_2027.pdf .
[323] Population and housing Census in Romania: https://insse.ro/cms/en/content/population-and-housing-census-romania-2021-round-synthetic-results .
[324] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.

present in public discourse. Further efforts are needed to address antigypsyism through more structural cross-sectoral measures underpinned by measurable results and targeted funding.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Romania did not report on this objective, as it is not explicitly included in the 2022-2027 National Roma Inclusion Strategy. However, related measures under education and employment objectives indirectly contribute to reducing poverty and social exclusion and narrowing the socio-economic gap between Roma and non-Roma.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note that the NRIS addresses Roma poverty as part of broader structural inequalities, supported by ESF+ project funding. However, it lacks Roma-specific objectives or targeted measures, relying instead on project-based initiatives rather than long-term systemic investments.

ASSESSMENT: While the NRIS recognises Roma as a socially vulnerable group and contains some measures that target them specifically, the lack of clear targets and indicators, such as proxy indicators (e.g. socio-economic situation or segregation) makes evaluation challenging. It is therefore necessary to better ensure and monitor that Roma have access to and benefit from mainstream measures that aim to reduce poverty and social exclusion. Further efforts are needed to reduce poverty and social exclusion among Roma communities (68% of Roma were at risk of poverty in 2024, compared to 19% of the general population) – and especially child poverty (75% of Roma Children were at risk of poverty in 2024, compared to 25% of children in general)[325] – by improving access to integrated social protection, education and employment services. Sustained and stable funding should also be ensured.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Romania did not report on this objective, referring instead to the NRIS' general objective of enhancing the quality of life of Romanian citizens belonging to the Roma minority through active citizenship, socio-economic inclusion and the promotion of Roma cultural heritage. It was reported that this overarching goal is pursued indirectly via the pursuit of all the Strategy's specific objectives, which address areas such as education, employment, health, housing, anti-discrimination and participation.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report that in 2024, the National Agency for Roma and the Ministry of Internal Affairs developed training for future police and border officers on discrimination, hate speech and ethics. Thematic working groups comprising ministries and other central institutions responsible for implementing the NRIS review its implementation and are expected to include Roma NGOs in this work, thereby enhancing civil society participation. However, the Strategy currently lacks concrete measures to build Roma CSO capacity, and this should be addressed in future revisions.

ASSESSMENT: Romania has integrated the EU objective of promoting participation into its NRIS as a cross-cutting goal focused on active citizenship and Roma cultural heritage. Participation is mainly addressed through sectoral measures, particularly in education and employment, rather than through a dedicated policy pillar. As a result, there is limited dedicated funding and no standalone targets or indicators. Formal consultation structures exist through CIIMES and EU fund monitoring committees, which provide a basis for dialogue with Roma stakeholders. Strengthening these mechanisms through clearer outcome-oriented indicators, dedicated resources and improved monitoring could help ensure that Roma civil society participation translates more effectively into policy influence and measurable socio-economic outcomes.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Romania's most important achievement was the increase in Roma student enrolment, which reached over 114 000 in December 2024. This progress resulted from expanded support programmes such as the 'Healthy Meal' and 'After-School' programmes, scholarships and free transport. The hiring of 464 new school mediators, dropout monitoring via the MATE platform, and Roma parents' engagement in over 1 300 activities also

[325] Available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/project/2024/roma-survey-2024.

contributed to this progress. Cooperation between the Ministry of Education, school inspectorates, local authorities and NGOs was key to achieving this outcome. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) increased the number of places reserved for Roma candidates in competitions organised by MIA-run educational institutions from 5 to 15 per year. In addition, some intercultural training for teachers was organised, including training on combating discrimination and on intercultural education.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs stress that in 2023-2024, the National Programme for Reducing School Dropout (PNRAS)[326] which provides comprehensive support to reduce school dropout rates, reached 25 000 Roma students. At the same time, reserved places enabled over 3 000 Roma to access secondary and higher education. A dedicated thematic working group in the Ministry of Education monitors implementation, but local capacity gaps, persistent school segregation and the fact that Roma history courses remain optional limit the impact of inclusive education policies.

ASSESSMENT: Romania has expanded support measures for Roma education, contributing to higher enrolment and better access to scholarships, school meals, transport, and dropout prevention programmes. Progress has also been supported by stronger institutional cooperation, additional school mediators, and affirmative measures. However, Roma participation in education remains below the national average at all levels. Only 40% of Roma children attend early childhood education and care (ECEC), compared to 75.7% nationally[327], while early school leaving affects 60% of Roma aged 18-24, compared to 16.8%[328] of the general population. School segregation and uneven implementation of measures, especially in rural and isolated areas, continue to limit equal access to education[329]. Romania is encouraged now to scale up successful measures nationally and strengthen desegregation efforts. Further, the intertwining of spatial and educational segregation needs to be addressed with legislative actions, that further foster access to mainstream schools for pupils who attend segregated schools and with an effective implementation of the methodology against school segregation (nr. 7701/2024).

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRCP reported that Roma have access to the full range of active labour market measures provided by the National Employment Agency (ANOFM), including job mediation, vocational training, and apprenticeships. A primary challenge is to foster a safe and inclusive environment for voluntary ethnic self-declaration, as many individuals remain hesitant due to historical marginalization and the fear of discrimination. Furthermore, efforts are focused on addressing socio-cultural barriers to employment and promoting the economic empowerment of Roma women to encourage their active participation in the labour market. While no ESF-funded projects were implemented during the period under consideration, new initiatives under the 2021-2027 programme were launched in April 2025, supported by national and unemployment insurance budgets.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report that targeted employment measures have supported Roma labour market inclusion, with over 1 700 Roma employed across 2023-2024 and more than 1 300 participating in training, along with progress in integrating young Roma not in education, employment or training (NEETs). However, persistent gaps remain, disaggregated data are limited, skill levels and access to training and counselling remain low, technological and administrative barriers hinder participation, coordination between education and labour authorities is weak, the Roma NEET rate remains very high, and stronger action is needed to address discrimination and ensure more effective and inclusive employment pathways.

ASSESSMENT: Romania has continued to support Roma labour market inclusion through active labour market measures, vocational training, apprenticeships, and targeted support programmes. In 2023–2024, over 1 700 Roma gained employment and more than 1 300 participated in training measures, while new ESF-funded initiatives under the 2021-2027 programme were launched in 2025**.** Despite these efforts, Roma remain underrepresented in the labour market, with only 59% in paid work. Meanwhile, 42% of young Roma are (NEETs)[330] Rising levels of perceived

[326] The National Programme for Reducing School Dropout (Programul Național pentru Reducerea Abandonului Școlar) is a Romanian PNRR-funded programme that aims to reduce early school leaving by supporting vulnerable students through remedial education, counselling and targeted school interventions. https://pnrr.edu.ro/despre-pnras/.
[327] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code educ_uoe_enra21), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/educ_uoe_enra21/default/table?lang=en.
[328] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code edat_lfse_14), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/edat_lfse_14__custom_22322300/default/table.
[329] Available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/project/2024/roma-survey-2024.
[330] Available at: https://pnrr.edu.ro/despre-pnras/.

discrimination further impede their integration into the labour market (27% of Roma report discrimination when looking for a job). Romania should strengthen targeted activation measures, improve access to training and counselling, and reinforce action against labour-market discrimination and antigypsyism.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRCP did not report on this objective, stating that in Romania data on ethnicity are not collected by health practitioners, which makes it difficult to assess the real number of Roma beneficiaries. According to the report, Romania ensures equal access to medical services for all citizens, whether insured or uninsured. Community healthcare services monitor and report on the health status of vulnerable groups, including Roma communities, based on medical, social and economic criteria. In addition, under the Health Programme, the ESF+ component of Priority 1 targets vulnerable groups such as the Roma minority by improving the quality of primary and community healthcare, expanding outpatient services, and strengthening preventive care.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Romania has expanded Roma health inclusion efforts through integrated community services in 125 marginalised areas and strengthened coordination structures such as the Technical Working Group on Community Integrated Healthcare Centres established in 2022 and the Ministerial Commission for Roma. The number of Roma health mediators has increased since 2022, and partnerships with Roma NGOs have been formalised. However, gaps remain, including the absence of systematically disaggregated data, limited rural health infrastructure, low health literacy and continued discrimination. Community health teams and centres require increased funding and stronger oversight, and there is still a need for trust-building measures and culturally sensitive outreach. Key shortcomings in the NRSF Health Action Plan, such as low annual check-up rates and insufficient prenatal care among Roma women, should be addressed as part of the next revision.

ASSESSMENT: Romania has expanded Roma health inclusion efforts through integrated community services in 125 marginalised areas, stronger cooperation structures, and increased involvement of Roma health mediators and NGOs. ESF+ funding also supports improvements in primary, outpatient, and preventive healthcare for vulnerable groups, including Roma communities. However, challenges remain, particularly the lack of ethnicity-disaggregated data, limited rural health infrastructure, low health literacy, and continued discrimination. 14% of Roma in Romania felt discriminated against when accessing healthcare in 2024 [331]. Romania should boost funding and improve oversight of community health services, access to mainstream healthcare services and tailored measures that facilitate this access (e.g. mobile health reams, screening programmes etc.) and continue scaling up Integrated Community centres. Further efforts should focus on strengthening maternal and preventive healthcare, establishing more systematic monitoring mechanisms to track progress, reinforcing partnerships with Roma organisations and expanding community outreach initiatives to help reduce persistent health inequalities and ensure that services reach Roma communities

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: To tackle residential segregation challenges, the Ministry of Development, Public Works, and Administration (MDPWA) initiated the 'Social housing for Roma communities' pilot programme, as per Government Decision 1237/2008. This program aims to enhance social inclusion by providing decent living standards for Roma, including the construction of 300 social units across Romania's eight regions.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs consider that Romania still faces major obstacles to equal, desegregated housing for Roma, including persistent local segregation, frequent forced evictions without alternatives, and burdensome administrative requirements that limit access to utilities and services. A severe shortage of social housing and weak anti-discrimination safeguards further hinder progress. A coherent medium-term strategy with clear indicators, adequate funding, and strong Roma participation is still missing.

ASSESSMENT: Romania has taken initial steps to address Roma housing exclusion through the pilot programme 'Social housing for Roma communities', which provides for the construction of 300 social housing units across all eight regions. However, Roma households continue to face severe housing deprivation: 86% live in overcrowded housing, 56% experience housing deprivation, and 28% lack running water inside the dwellings[332]. Romania should strengthen implementation of its housing and Roma inclusion strategies, increase investments in desegregated social

[331] Available at: https://fra.europa.eu/en/project/2024/roma-survey-2024.
[332] Available at: https://pnrr.edu.ro/despre-pnras/.

housing and complementary social inclusion measures distributed across non-segregated neighbourhoods, improve accountability of local authorities, and ensure stronger anti-discrimination safeguards and Roma participation in housing policies**.**

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: In Romania, the NRCP and the NAR jointly oversee the National Roma Inclusion Strategy, with the NRCP responsible for monitoring, evaluation and cooperation with the NAR, ministries and public bodies. It also participates in the Interministerial Committee (CIIMES). Local CSOs contribute via consultations, while mayors and local councils implement the strategy through local action plans, supported by local working groups (LWGs) comprising authorities, NGOs and community representatives, and Roma-led local initiative groups (LIGs) to identify needs and solutions. The NRCP works with the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) and the National Council for Combating Discrimination (NCCD) through thematic working groups and joint events. Under the Evaluation of Roma Inclusion measures project (ERIM), the NCCD provided guidance on tackling discrimination and shared the results of evaluations of ESF-funded Roma inclusion measures.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs noted that the views of Roma NGOs are not always fully considered during the design of the NRSF, and that their involvement during the implementation process is limited to project-level activities funded by EEA grants and ESF+ programmes. As regards monitoring, NGOs participate as observers in CIIMES meetings and in county-level mixed working groups, but they have not yet been involved in the review process, which remains pending due to political constraints

ASSESSMENT: To strengthen Roma inclusion, Romania should improve the availability of disaggregated data and strengthen coordination both across ministries and between national and local authorities to better target Roma communities. Authorities should also ensure that Roma and pro-Roma CSOs are fully involved in the design, implementation, monitoring and review of the NRSF, and not just in specific projects. Formalising the role of CSOs in monitoring and evaluation, addressing delays in the review process and strengthening feedback mechanisms within coordination structures would improve transparency and accountability. Expanding support for Roma-led organisations and systematically integrating their input into policymaking would help translate local participation into more sustainable and impactful outcomes.

FUNDING

Roma inclusion in Romania is funded through national, EU, and international sources. The largest investments targeting education (more than EUR 390 million), encompassed broad national education expenditures and major programmes such as PNRAS[333], the MATE[334] platform, school transport, meals, scholarships, and 'Second Chance' education to reduce dropout rates. Housing and infrastructure received EUR 1.97 billion through national schemes, informal settlement projects, and programmes like Anghel Saligny programme. Anti-discrimination measures received EUR 2.35 million, which helped fund the 'Integrated Action to Combat Hate Crimes' project, including awareness campaigns, training, and community interventions. Under ESF+, EUR 340.5 million was allocated, including EUR 56.7 million for Roma-specific or mainstream inclusion measures in education, healthcare, and social inclusion, alongside Community led Local Development and material support for vulnerable groups. Health services were funded through general health funding, without Roma-specific budgets. A forthcoming JRC report (JRC147984) corroborates this evidence finding positive impact of ESF-funded interventions on a series of outcomes related to poverty reduction, access to health services and school enrolment.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Romania's NRSF defines quantitative targets for all EU-level objectives, except Objective 2 (Poverty and social exclusion) and Objective 3 (Participation), and qualitative targets for Objective 4 (Education) and Objective 7 (Housing). It also includes indicators for monitoring progress achieved under all EU-level objectives, except Objectives 2 and 3. None of these indicators correspond to the EU-level headline or secondary indicators. Instead, they refer to the outputs of specific measures (number of …). Targets to be reached by 2027 are defined for about half of these indicators. The country has established a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the NRSF. Roma or pro-Roma

[333] Available at: https://pnrr.edu.ro/?utm_.
[334] Available at: https://pnrr.edu.ro/despre-mate/?utm_.

CSOs are engaged in monitoring the implementation of the NRSF.

PROMISING PRACTICES

The police has taken important steps to improve its institutional capacity to prevent, discover and investigate antisocial acts with a discriminatory motive. An important part of the institutional efforts to achieve these objectives are made within the project 'Integrated action for combating hate crimes, particularly against Roma communities, and ensuring a high-quality standard of police service"[335]. The project is financed by the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021, and the main achievements were presented during a conference held on 2 April 2024 in the city of Constanța. During this period, 200 police officers participated in academic training courses in the field of preventing and combating this type of crime. Police officers in operative structures will develop new skills to identify and address issues specific to the Roma community and other vulnerable groups. The academic training sessions have been developed on the basis of a partnership agreement between the Romanian police and the Institute for the Research of the Quality of Life in Romania – the Romanian Academy.

The Ministry of Labour, Family, Youth and Social Solidarity, together with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education, is implementing a flagship project under the Social Inclusion and Dignity Programme that aims to establish integrated social, health and educational services in 2 000 rural communities across Romania. The project aims to support at least 450 000 vulnerable persons. The initiative aims to improve access to social services, healthcare and educational support through coordinated, community-based work, including outreach to Roma populations in underserved areas.[336]

[335] Available at: https://politiaromana.ro/en/news-and-media/info/integrated-actions-to-combat-hate-crimes.
[336] Available at: https://www.edu.ro/SCI_2000_editabil.

Table 23 - Slovenia

Slovenia	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	The Slovenian NRSF, entitled 'National Programme of Measures for Roma of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for the Period 2021–2030'[337], outlines the situation and the measures to be implemented across horizontal and sectoral goals. Adopted in 2021, the NRSF contains target deadlines for 2030.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	Civil society estimates: the Roma population exceeds 12 000[338] Council of Europe estimates: approximately 8 500 (0.41% of the population)[339].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Government Office for National Minorities
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
During the 2023-2025 period, the NRCP operated with an annual budget of EUR 7 000 000, sourced from both EU and national funds. The tasks of the NRCP are performed by one person on average, and additional resources would be required for the tasks involved. The NRCP plays a key role in shaping social inclusion policies for Roma. It collaborates with a network of coordinators from ministries, municipalities, public fund authorities, the Housing Fund and the Roma Community Council, all of which report on the NRSF's implementation. It engages in dialogues with municipalities and offers help with drafting municipal action plans or tackling specific challenges affecting Roma at local level. The NRCP and Roma Community Council participate in the work of the monitoring committee of the European Cohesion Policy Programme without voting rights.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: The most significant achievement in combating antigypsyism was improved training for police officers and public servants working with Roma communities, alongside heightened awareness among both the majority population and Roma themselves. The Roma Community Council of Slovenia, as the umbrella Roma organisation, played a key role in these efforts, while also reporting on harmful practices like child marriages and forced marriages. Under the National Platform for Roma project, activities included an event focusing on discrimination, antigypsyism and the role of the media. Financial support is provided to Roma and pro-Roma CSOs to boost Roma inclusion, especially at local level. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs highlight worrying tensions between Roma and non-Roma populations, exacerbated by local politicians. The rise of discrimination against Roma is evidenced in a series of incidents between 2019 and 2025, including protests against Roma. CSOs highlight persistent discrimination in housing and employment, alongside physical abuse, hate speech and hate crimes against Roma. They also recommend increasing Roma employment in the public sector to counter stereotypes and implementing anti-discrimination measures at local level. These measures should be designed by the Office of the Ombudsman and monitored by an independent body. **ASSESSMENT**: Antigypsyism in Slovenia has reportedly intensified in recent years, in part due to a violent incident that reinforced negative stereotypes linking Roma communities to criminality. Increased public tensions and protests	

[337] Available at: https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/408177c9-7a81-4541-bf59-c1286bffe78a_en?filename=slovenia_-_national_roma_strategic_framework_21_30_en.pdf.

[338] Number agreed upon by the Roma civil monitoring coalition in Slovenia.

[339] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.

have contributed to a heightened sense of insecurity among Roma communities. Concerns have also been raised regarding the proposed 'Šutar Law'[340], notably its potential disproportionate impact on Roma communities through expanded police powers in designated 'high-risk' areas. While awareness-raising initiatives continue, stakeholders stress the need for stronger measures at local level, effective oversight and greater Roma participation in public institutions to support inclusion and address discrimination in areas such as housing and employment.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: The NRSF does not explicitly target poverty reduction, addressing it instead through broader objectives related to social security, integration, and social inclusion. Progress includes the annual co-funding of 6-10 social programmes aimed at empowering Roma communities, the establishment of 19 Multipurpose Roma Centres and 5 multigenerational centres, and NGO initiatives supporting Roma women and girls. For Roma children, financial assistance, school assistants, and tailor-made kindergarten programmes support early education and inclusion. Innovative teaching approaches that promote cultural heritage and individualised learning have also contributed to improved educational engagement and progression.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs recommend that future updates of the NRSF align it more closely with the EU Roma Strategic Framework by explicitly introducing a specific objective on reducing poverty and social exclusion. This alignment would improve monitoring and reporting processes. They also suggest consolidating measures from various sectoral objectives under a single section to pursue this horizontal goal more effectively. Finally, stronger state action is needed to address the needs of particularly vulnerable groups, such as young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs) and Roma women and children, who are at higher risk of exclusion.

ASSESSMENT: Slovenia could strengthen the effectiveness of its Roma inclusion policies by ensuring that social protection, empowerment and poverty-reduction programmes are implemented more consistently across regions with large Roma populations. Future updates of the NRSF could align it more closely with the EU Roma Strategic Framework through the introduction of a dedicated objective on reducing poverty and social exclusion. Bringing together measures currently dispersed across sectoral objectives in a more coherent framework could improve coordination, monitoring and impact. Greater focus on vulnerable groups, including NEETs and Roma women and children, could also help achieve more inclusive and sustainable outcomes in terms of integration.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Roma communities have been actively involved in the preparation, design and monitoring of the NRSF through the Roma Community Council, which also contributes to government annual reports. It co-finances radio programmes to promote balanced Roma representation, preserve Roma language and culture, and highlight examples of positive coexistence. Roma representatives and CSOs are involved in decision-making on measures affecting Roma at national and local level. Locally, Roma communities elect their own representatives to 20 local councils. The Government Working Group for Addressing Roma Issues, established under the 2007 Roma Community Act, includes state, municipal and Roma representatives in monitoring Roma conditions and fostering dialogue. Strengthening mutual trust and cooperation between Roma and non-Roma communities remains a key challenge.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs recognise the Roma Community Council as an example of good practice but emphasise the need for a specific horizontal objective to promote participation through empowerment, cooperation and trust. There is a need to research the level of trust in institutions among Roma communities and to establish measurable outcome indicators to assess the impact of implemented measures.

ASSESSMENT: Slovenia could build on the established role of the Roma Community Council by further strengthening and formalising cooperation with Roma CSOs at all stages of policymaking and implementation. Expanding efforts to foster trust and dialogue between Roma and non-Roma communities will remain essential, particularly in addressing rising antigypsyism. Developing measurable outcome indicators and conducting research on Roma trust in public institutions could also support more effective evaluation of policies and strengthen evidence-based approaches to participation, empowerment and long-term inclusion.

[340] Available at: https://www.gov.si/en/news/2025-11-06-prime-minister-golob-the-sutar-act-provides-answers-on-how-to-enhance-public-safety/.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: The 'Multipurpose Roma Centers as Innovative Learning Environments' project, co-funded by the EU and Slovenia's Ministry of Education, represents a major step forward in supporting Roma inclusion in education. The initiative strengthens Roma children's skills and participation in early childhood education, encourages school attendance, and promotes connections between Roma and non-Roma communities through the recognition of Roma culture and traditions. Innovative teaching methods and individualised learning programmes have further supported children's development and cultural identity.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs point to persistent segregation in education, particularly due to the provision of education in segregated areas. The rate of transition to secondary education is very low among Roma children, highlighting the need for incentives such as scholarships and free school supplies to support students at all educational levels. Slovenia's punitive approach to Roma non-attendance lacks supportive alternatives for fostering real change, and adult education opportunities are missing altogether. CSOs also suggest increasing the presence of Roma assistants to improve inclusion and support throughout the education system.

ASSESSMENT: Slovenia could build on the progress achieved through the 'Multipurpose Roma Centres' project by extending inclusive support measures beyond early childhood education and strengthening pathways into secondary and higher education. Greater focus on reducing segregation, improving educational continuity and expanding targeted support, such as scholarships and learning assistance, could help address persistent structural barriers. Aligning future education reforms more closely with the needs of Roma communities and ensuring sustained long-term investment would further support equitable access to quality education and more sustainable inclusion outcomes.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: Slovenia has focused on empowering socially vulnerable groups and boosting their chances of entering the labour market. This policy implemented nationwide by the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, promotes the activation of Roma community members, specifically targeting Roma women and young people in their local environment via psychosocial programmes and job training aimed at improving employment opportunities. Slovenia has also created jobs in education and is investing in Roma children's development in Multipurpose Roma Centres, with the aim of improving their chances of finding employment in the future.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight the significant challenges faced by Roma communities in accessing employment, including discrimination, low education levels and limited access to adult education. The physical isolation of Roma settlements and their poor connectivity to potential workplaces also represent major obstacles. CSOs recommend introducing systematic data collection on Roma unemployment, as well as targeted employment measures and employer incentives to address these challenges. Additionally, it stresses the need for effective anti-discrimination measures to ensure equal employment opportunities.

ASSESSMENT: Slovenia could boost Roma labour market inclusion by expanding targeted education, training and employment support, particularly for Roma women and young people. Improving access to adult education, scholarships and Roma learning assistance programmes, along with stronger anti-discrimination measures and employer incentives, could help reduce persistent barriers to stable employment. More systematic data collection on Roma employment outcomes and stronger coordination between education, social and labour market policies would further support evidence-based interventions and help achieve more sustainable social and economic inclusion.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Slovenia has increased trust in healthcare institutions and enhanced accessibility for Roma communities, particularly in underserved areas. Through annual health conferences, localised training and monthly radio broadcasts on Romic Radio, the Ministry of Health and the Roma association Romani Union have brought vital health education directly to Roma households. Inconsistent reporting from health centres remains a challenge that

hampers progress tracking, while deep-seated disparities require more than outreach. The Advocate for Equality monitors discrimination, but lasting impact requires sustained funding, access to preventive care and stronger local health networks. Though progress is visible, systemic integration will take time.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge that some progress has been made. However, they stress the need for sustainable financing of effectual activities, rather than project-based funding, if long-term impact is to be achieved. They also point to significant health disparities affecting the Roma community, including higher hospitalisation rates among Roma children, increased perinatal risks and poor maternal health outcomes. It identifies limited access to health services, due to geographical isolation and low health literacy, as a major challenge that needs to be addressed to improve the health and wellbeing of Roma communities.

ASSESSMENT: Slovenia could build on efforts to strengthen trust between Roma communities and healthcare institutions by improving access to quality healthcare services in areas with large Roma populations. Addressing persistent health disparities, particularly those affecting Roma women and children, will require sustained targeted interventions and stronger coordination across health and social services. Improving annual reporting and monitoring mechanisms could also contribute to more effective progress assessment and evidence-based policymaking. Continued investment in inclusive healthcare measures and prevention of segregation will be key to achieving equal access to healthcare and long-term health outcomes for Roma communities.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Slovenia's Roma communities have long lived in informal settlements, often on unowned land, which lack basic utilities like water and electricity. The Government's desegregation efforts include a centralised database of settlements to help with municipal infrastructure planning and the legalisation of land ownership. While primary infrastructures (roads) now reach most areas, access to utilities (water, sewers and electricity) remains limited due to legal obstacles. The Housing Fund and the Office for National Minorities inform municipalities and residents about housing options, including co-financed, non-profit housing. Measures in these areas benefit from substantial funding, yet legal hurdles, bureaucratic delays and land disputes slow progress. Sustained political will and simplified procedures are vital to ensure equal housing access and end spatial segregation.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs stress that current measures to integrate Roma are not sufficient, as they do not specifically target the communities' needs and do not prioritise desegregation. Many Roma still live in segregated settlements with poor living conditions and limited access to basic services. CSOs recommend conducting an impact analysis on the effects of living in an integrated environment (as opposed to a segregated one), to be followed by the development of a comprehensive long-term desegregation plan.

ASSESSMENT: Spatial segregation of Roma communities remains a significant challenge in Slovenia, despite progress in improving infrastructure and access to basic services. Going forward, stronger emphasis on targeted desegregation measures, simplified legal procedures, and coordinated long-term housing strategies could help address persistent inequalities in living conditions. While cohesion policy funding has contributed to infrastructure and housing improvements that also benefit Roma settlements, a more targeted and integrated approach may be needed to ensure sustainable inclusion and equal access to adequate housing. Further assessment of the social impact of integrated housing solutions could also support evidence-based policymaking and long-term desegregation efforts.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: In Slovenia, the long-standing Roma Community Council and the Government Working Group for Addressing Roma Issues have laid the groundwork for establishing partnerships and boosting institutional capacity. The Roma Community Council plays a key role in representing the communities' interests in decision-making processes, both locally and at national level. Co-financed by the national budget, the Council strengthens the institutional framework and fosters a collaborative relationship with state authorities. Furthermore, the Government has established a network of coordinators and contact persons across ministries and municipalities to facilitate coordination and monitoring. It also provides earmarked financial support to Roma and pro-Roma CSOs, with the aim of improving the situation of Roma communities and promote their integration into society.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs stress the key role of the Roma Community Council in monitoring the implementation of the NRSF, representing Roma interests, proposing new initiatives, and ensuring Roma participation

in national and local activities.

ASSESSMENT: Slovenia could build on the established role of the Roma Community Council by strengthening its capacity to support more systematic monitoring of and follow-up to NRSF implementation. Enhanced coordination between national and local authorities, alongside stable and sustainable funding for Roma and pro-Roma CSOs, could further boost meaningful participation and ensure policy continuity. Developing stronger monitoring and data-driven evaluation mechanisms would also help improve accountability, assess the impact of existing measures and support more effective and inclusive Roma integration policies over the long term.

PROMISING PRACTICES

Multipurpose Roma Centres: in Slovenia, the project 'Multipurpose Roma Centres as Innovative Learning Environments' was implemented from September 2021 to August 2023, coordinated by the Centre for Curricular and Extracurricular Activities. The initiative was co-financed by the ESF and national funding from the Ministry of Education. It provides educational and support activities for Roma children and families through multipurpose centres, with the aim of improving general and vocational skills and promoting Roma children's inclusion and performance in the education system and society. The initiative continues in a new European Social Fund project for the period 2023-2028, which expands activities supporting Roma children's participation in education.[341]

[341] Available at: https://www.gov.si/drzavni-organi/ministrstva/ministrstvo-za-vzgojo-in-izobrazevanje/.

Table 24 - Slovakia

Slovakia	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	The Government of the Slovak Republic approved the NRSF, entitled 'Strategy of equality, inclusion and participation of Roma until 2030'[342], in April 2021. It outlines priority areas, including education, housing, employment and health, and addresses the fight against anti-Roma racism and participation. The Action Plans for 2022-2024[343], setting out concrete measures and activities, were adopted in April 2022. The subsequent Action Plans for 2025-2027[344] were adopted in December 2024.
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	Council of Europe estimates: approximately 500 000 (10% of the population of the country)[345]; 67 179 (2021 Census)[346].
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
Slovakia's NRCP operates within the Office of the Government, which had an annual budget of EUR 4.688 million for 2023-2025. The Office employs 218 staff, including 6 in the Section of Strategic Policies and the Department of Inclusive Policies. It coordinates the development and monitoring of the national Roma strategic framework and its Action Plans and submits annual reports to the Government. As an intermediate body in the EU Cohesion Policy framework, it supports projects that promote Roma inclusion across sectors. The Office is also a full member of the Monitoring Committee for Programme Slovakia 2021-2027, participates in Sub-Committees, chairs the Sub-Committee for marginalised Roma communities, and ensures Roma priorities are integrated into Cohesion Policy programming and monitoring.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: Under this objective, a major achievement is the introduction of a comprehensive expert definition of anti-Roma racism in the Concept for the Prevention and Fight against Radicalisation and Extremism 2025-2028[347]. Approved by the Government in May 2025, the document was developed by the Committee for the Prevention and Elimination of Racism, Xenophobia, Antisemitism and Other Forms of Intolerance, with the active participation of civil society organisations (CSOs) represented in the committee. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs stress that consideration should be given to strengthening the legal and institutional framework for combating antigypsyism. They also stress the need to integrate the definition of antigypsyism across strategic documents and policies to ensure a consistent and comprehensive approach at all levels of governance. **ASSESSMENT**: Slovakia is encouraged to build on the recognition of anti-Roma racism in strategic documents by supporting consistent implementation across relevant policy areas and institutions. This may include integrating anti-	

[342] Based on Government Resolution of the Slovak Republic No 181 of 7 April 2021 on the Strategy for Equality, Inclusion and Roma Participation until 2030. Available at: https://www.romovia.vlada.gov.sk/site/assets/files/1526/strategy_of_equality_inclusion_and_participation_of_roma_until_2030.pdf.
[343] Available at: https://www.romovia.vlada.gov.sk/site/assets/files/1113/akcne_plany_strategie_2030_na_roky_2022_2024_final.pdf.
[344] Available at: https://romovia.vlada.gov.sk/site/assets/files/1113/akcne_plany_strategie_2030_na_roky_2025_2027_final.pdf.
[345] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[346] Available at: https://www.scitanie.sk/en.
[347] Available at: https://rokovania.gov.sk/RVL/Material/30798/1.

discrimination training into the professional education of judges, lawyers, healthcare workers, and public officials, and embedding anti-racism principles in internal procedures, monitoring systems, and codes of conduct. Strengthening enforcement of anti-discrimination legislation remains important, not least because an estimated 95% of Roma who experience discrimination do not report it[348]. Improving the accessibility of equality body may help address barriers. In parallel, awareness-raising efforts are needed, particularly as 68% of the population are unwilling to have a Roma neighbour[349].

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: While this objective is not explicitly included in the NRSF, it is addressed through cross-cutting measures designed to bridge access gaps and support Roma children attending kindergarten, such as investments in early childhood development programmes and funding for Roma assistants and health mediators. Additional efforts include programmes to increase employability through re-skilling and adult learning programmes for the low-qualified. Together, these combined efforts contribute directly to reducing poverty and social exclusion among marginalised Roma communities.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs stress the need for stronger state-level measures to address regional inequalities, particularly by supporting job creation in the least developed districts. In the area of poverty reduction and social inclusion, they point to the importance of increasing minimum pensions, simplifying access to social benefits, and improving awareness of rights, including through the provision of free legal advice. CSOs further stress the need to enhance the effectiveness and transparency of the social system. In this context, they recommend revisiting the design and accessibility of social housing benefits, which remain inaccessible to many people from marginalised Roma communities.

ASSESSMENT: Slovakia should embark on systemic institutional reforms and move away from the current reliance on short-term, project-based EU financing for essential inclusion services. To ensure long-term sustainability, successful initiatives such as early-care assistance and Roma health mediators should be anchored in the national budget and embedded in the broader social and health service systems. Furthermore, the state is encouraged to address the lack of political will and administrative capacity at the municipal level, in order to ensure that national inclusion goals - including essential infrastructure, such as access to drinking water - are implemented effectively at the local level.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: In June 2024, the Slovak National Council amended No.575/2001 on the Organisation of Government Activities and Central State Administration, strengthening the institutional framework for national minorities.[350] The former Committee for National Minorities and Ethnic Groups was replaced by a new Government Council for National Minorities with stronger competencies. While the Plenipotentiary for Roma Communities remains in place, a new permanent Plenipotentiary for National Minorities was created. The reform enhances NGO participation through grassroots nominations and formal membership, addressing previous concerns about limited focus on minority issues enabling Roma representatives to engage more directly in policymaking.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report a growing gap between formal institutional reforms and effective Roma participation. Although the transformation of the Committee for National Minorities and Ethnic Groups into the Government Council for National Minorities has boosted the formal status of minorities, dialogue is seen as having been weakened in practice. For example, bodies advising the Plenipotentiary for Roma Communities and for Roma youth have not met since 2023, limiting the involvement of experts and civil society in policy design. Participation in the monitoring of EU funds is also described as limited, with minimal Roma representation in Programme Slovakia 2021-2027 structures. In the absence of stable institutional funding and active consultative bodies, increased formal representation may not translate into meaningful policy influence.

ASSESSMENT: With the establishment of the Government Council for National Minorities, Slovakia has strengthened its institutional framework. However, further efforts are needed to build up the political and civic

[348] Preliminary data provided by the NRCP office, forthcoming publication expected at Špecializované zisťovanie EU SILC_MRK | Úrad splnomocnenca vlády SR pre rómske komunity.
[349] Ibid.
[350] Available at: https://www.slov-lex.sk/ezbierky/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/2024/201/20240901.html?utm.

capacities of Roma representatives and ensure sustainable support for Roma civil society, so that strengthened representation translates into tangible policy outcomes. At the same time, measures promoting social cohesion and meaningful interaction between Roma and non-Roma communities should be reinforced through locally driven, community-based initiatives that foster trust, solidarity and mutual respect.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Slovakia has introduced several measures to combat segregation and promote inclusive education. New standards for prohibiting segregation in education[351] and a Methodological Handbook on Desegregation[352] guide schools in their implementation of these measures. In response to the European Commission's legal action and country-specific recommendations, Slovakia launched two ESF+ projects: 'Opportunity for All'[353] and 'Support for Educational Opportunities'[354]. The national project 'System of Support Measures'[355] now underpins inclusive education, complemented by grants for early care and interventions in favour of Roma children under the Recovery and Resilience Plan. Project Development Team I[356] supports these efforts, while Amendment Act No 290/2024[357] (in force since January 2025) adjusts school financing and management to further eliminate segregation.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge the progress made, but notes that the Government should intensify efforts to end the segregation of Roma children. This requires promoting inclusive, high-quality education and demonstrating measurable progress towards EU and national targets. Clear desegregation principles and effective regional coordination mechanisms should be developed and implemented, supported by quality teaching, adequate transport, and financial assistance to guarantee equal access to quality education for all children.

ASSESSMENT: Slovakia is encouraged to build on recent measures supporting inclusive and desegregated education, including new desegregation standards, ESF+ projects and reforms of school financing and management. Roma participation in early childhood education and care (ECEC) for children aged 3-6 has increased to 55% in 2024 (from 33% in 2020). However, barriers remain, including limited availability and accessibility. Despite ongoing efforts, school segregation of Roma pupils remains high (66%), and early school leaving remains a significant challenge, despite declining from 72% to 67%[358]. Continued investment in accessible and affordable ECEC, including Slovak language support and local coordination mechanisms, may further support school readiness and equal educational opportunities.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: Active labour market measures have been expanded, with a focus on vocational training specifically tailored to the needs of marginalised Roma communities. This has improved school-to-work transitions and youth participation. Coordination between labour offices, municipalities and non-state providers has been strengthened, supported by employer incentives and anti-discrimination initiatives. In February 2024, the 'Step by Step II'[359] programme was launched to engage inactive individuals and young people, including those not in employment, education or training (NEETs). The programme offers EU-funded, individualised support to boost employability and social inclusion.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs stress the need for stronger coordination between education, training and employment services to ensure that marginalised groups are actually provided with lifelong learning opportunities. Building on successful project-based approaches, individualised support for unemployed Roma should be institutionalised to provide sustained and continuous assistance. CSOs also underline the importance of facilitating

[351] Available at: https://www.minedu.sk/standardy-dodrziavania-zakazu-segregacie/.
[352] Available at: https://www.minedu.sk/odborne-materialy-pre-skoly-azriadovatelov-kdesegregacii/.
[353] Available at: https://www.minedu.sk/39814-sk/narodne-projekty/.
[354] Available at: https://www.minedu.sk/39814-sk/narodne-projekty/.
[355] Available at: https://www.minedu.sk/inkluzia-a-podporne-opatrenia/.
[356] Available at: https://www.romovia.vlada.gov.sk/narodne-projekty/nprt1/.
[357] Available at: https://www.slov-lex.sk/ezbierky/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/2024/290/20250101.html.
[358] Ibid.
[359] Available at: https://www.employment.gov.sk/sk/uvodna-stranka/informacie-media/aktuality/ministerstvo-prace-vyhlasuje-vyzvu-krok-za-krokom-ii-predkladanie-ziadosti-nenavratny-financny-prispevok.html.

regular meetings and networking opportunities between employers and Roma jobseekers to counter prejudice, foster mutual understanding and promote inclusive employment practices.

ASSESSMENT: Access to employment for low-skilled and long-term unemployed members of marginalised Roma communities remains a significant challenge, with limited progress to date. Among young people, 63% of Roma aged 16-24 are not in employment, education or training (NEETs), far above the national average (11%)[360]. While Slovakia applies various outreach tools (e.g. social work, online platforms and targeted campaigns), marginalised groups – especially young Roma – are still not being reached. Around 29% of Roma jobseekers report ethnic discrimination[361]. Employment opportunities are often segregated and limited to low-skilled or community-based roles, offering few prospects for skills development. Stronger coordination between education, training and employment services, alongside effective implementation of ESF+ and social economy initiatives, could support more sustainable and inclusive labour market integration.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: For the first time, the NRSF incorporated data-driven measures in its health action plans. Under these measures, disaggregated data on health inequalities are systematically collected and analysed, including data on life expectancy, access to healthcare, prevalence of chronic diseases and infant mortality. These data provide a basis for evidence-based interventions targeting Roma health outcomes. In addition, the national project 'Healthy Communities', implemented by the state-funded organisation Healthy Regions[362], has been involved in these efforts since 2017.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs stress the importance of strengthening measures to prevent discrimination against Roma in healthcare facilities and integrating training on antigypsyism into the education of healthcare professionals. They underline the need to develop targeted preventive health programmes, including regular screenings and accessible dental care, to address higher morbidity and mortality rates in disadvantaged Roma populations. They also mention the importance of ensuring the sustainability and expansion of evidence-based health measures to improve Roma health outcomes and support progress towards EU headline targets by 2030.

ASSESSMENT: Slovakia has strengthened the evidence base for Roma health inclusion through data-driven measures and initiatives such as Healthy Regions, which support outreach and monitoring. Additional efforts are needed to address structural barriers, including discrimination, limited access to services and poor living conditions. Continued investment in training and awareness-raising for healthcare professionals, alongside measures supporting culturally sensitive healthcare provision, may also contribute to improving trust, accessibility and the effectiveness of healthcare services for disadvantaged Roma communities.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The main achievement under this objective is the systematic reduction of the number of illegal dwellings in marginalised communities. Illegal construction and limited rental housing continue to pose a challenge, but several systemic measures have been implemented to address it, including municipal social and economic development plans that provide local solutions. Progress has also been made in regulating land ownership in Roma settlements and creating municipal zoning plans. Clarity over land ownership enables local authorities to implement infrastructure projects, including technical infrastructure, owner-occupied housing and rental housing, supporting improvements in housing conditions for Roma communities.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge that access to water and sewage systems has improved. However, they also stress that no significant systemic progress has been made in improving effective and equal access to adequate desegregated housing and essential services. Sustainable desegregation requires a gradual, locally tailored approach supported by tailor-made plans for each community. Lasting improvements in housing should be linked with job creation, financial education and awareness-raising among both Roma and non-Roma populations to promote

[360] Preliminary data provided by the NRCP office, forthcoming publication expected to be available at Špecializované zisťovanie EU SILC_MRK | Úrad splnomocnenca vlády SR pre rómske komunity.
[361] Ibid.
[362] Available at: https://www.zdraveregiony.eu.

inclusion.

ASSESSMENT: Slovakia has made some progress in strengthening the policy and funding framework for housing, including recent reallocations of EU funds and new initiatives targeting marginalised groups[363]. However, implementation remains limited, with several measures still at the preparation or approval stage and no significant contracting or spending to date. Around 20% of Roma households lack running water directly in their dwellings, while 77% live in overcrowded housing[364]. Access to non-segregated housing continues to depend heavily on local political will, which limits the uptake of available support schemes. Measures to address segregation and discrimination remain insufficient, while efforts to legalise lan and expand basic infrastructure are often fragmented. Overall, progress is hindered by weak local implementation and delays in translating funding into concrete housing solutions.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: In Slovakia, there is no formal National Roma Platform. However, dialogue and stakeholder participation are ensured through other mechanisms. Civil society organisations, municipalities, ministries, academic institutions and other stakeholders are involved in thematic working groups established during the preparation of the National Roma Strategy and its associated Action Plans. In addition, the Office of the Plenipotentiary regularly organises local and regional forums involving regional and local stakeholders. Consultation of civil society is also supported through the Council of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Non-Governmental Non-Profit Organisations, which acts as an advisory body on the implementation of the Roma Strategy. Furthermore, the creation of a Governmental Council on Roma, to be established in 2025 and to be chaired by the Prime Minister, is intended to strengthen coordination of policies and funding related to Roma inclusion, including measures financed through the state budget, with EU structural funds and from the Recovery and Resilience Plan.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: According to CSOs, mechanisms to ensure meaningful participation of Roma in the implementation and monitoring of inclusion policies remain inadequate. While Roma and pro-Roma CSOs were involved in developing the NRSF, they are not represented in the monitoring committees under Programme Slovakia 2021-2027. Their participation is restricted to the annual evaluations of Action Plans organised by the Office of the Government Plenipotentiary for Roma Communities.

ASSESSMENT: Slovakia is encouraged to build on existing consultation and coordination mechanisms by further strengthening structured cooperation with Roma and pro-Roma CSOs in the implementation and monitoring of the NRSF. The planned establishment of the Governmental Council on Roma may provide an opportunity to enhance coordination of policies and funding related to Roma inclusion. Going forward, expanding structured participation beyond the annual evaluations, including through broader involvement in Programme Slovakia 2021-2027 monitoring structures and EU-funded programmes, could support more consistent stakeholder engagement. Strengthening cooperation with regional and local authorities may also help improve implementation and contribute to more measurable and sustainable policy outcomes.

FUNDING

Slovakia's Roma inclusion measures are funded from private, international, national and EU sources, including Cohesion Policy Funds and NextGenerationEU. For 2021-2027, total EU funding amounts to approximately EUR 907 million. The Office of the Plenipotentiary for Roma Communities manages EUR 431.5 million (EUR 229.5 million from the ERDF, EUR 202 million from the ESF+), while the remainder is implemented by other ministries through mainstream investments, in coordination with the Office. In the current reporting cycle, EUR 41 million in EU funding supports mainstream initiatives targeting people at risk of poverty and exclusion, including Roma. In education, around EUR 10 million has been invested, including EUR 5 million for targeted early childhood programmes. In addition, EUR 36.7 million supports NEETs and integration enterprises, while funding for targeted measures includes EUR 13.6 million for health mediators, EUR 11.6 million for settlements, and EUR 1.8 million for participatory engagement.

[363] This includes the reallocation of EUR 41 million to the Dostupný Domov project (ERDF), a EUR 44 million housing call launched in 2024 by the Office of the Plenipotentiary for Roma Communities, additional allocations under the mid-term review, and ESF+ support through the "HERO – Housing within reach" project.

[364] Preliminary data provided by the NRCP office, forthcoming publication expected at Špecializované zisťovanie EU SILC_MRK | Úrad splnomocnenca vlády SR pre rómske komunity.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION
The NRSF sets quantitative targets for all objectives, except Objective 2 (Poverty and social exclusion) and Objective 3 (Participation), and qualitative targets for all EU-level objectives, except Objective 2. It also includes indicators for monitoring implementation for all EU-level objectives, except Objective 2. These indicators include most of the EU-level headline indicators. Slovakia also sets targets for 2030 for almost all 90 indicators included in the monitoring framework. The country has established a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the national Roma strategic framework, and annual monitoring reports and external assessments are produced every third year. Roma or pro-Roma CSOs are involved in monitoring the implementation of the NRSF.
PROMISING PRACTICES
The development of reports on health inequalities between marginalised Roma communities and the general population focuses on the systematic collection and analysis of health data to identify disparities between marginalised Roma communities and the general population in Slovakia. Implemented between 2022 and 2024 in cooperation with public health institutions under the National Roma Inclusion Strategy, the initiative produces regular reports that provide an evidence base for targeted health policies and interventions. By generating reliable data on the specific health challenges faced by marginalised Roma, it supports more effective measures to reduce health inequalities and enables better monitoring of progress. The initiative represents a promising practice, as it strengthens evidence-based policymaking and improves the capacity to address health disparities affecting Roma communities. In February 2024, the national project 'Step by Step II'[365] (funded by the ESF+) was launched, with the aim of bringing inactive persons who are neither employed nor registered with the employment office into the labour market through direct interventions in the field. The interventions focus on support and assistance in finding, obtaining and maintaining employment, including by providing access to labour law expertise and financial counselling, identifying personal prerequisites, abilities and skills, and recognising daily obstacles, at various levels, to entering the labour market. This project can contribute to individual successes in employing Roma from marginalised and poor communities. A national ESF+-funded project that addresses land ownership and legal-use relations in municipalities with marginalised Roma communities supports the clarification and legalisation of land ownership and provides mediation and methodological assistance to municipalities and residents. This approach aims to enable subsequent investments in infrastructure and housing and remove structural barriers that often prevent improvements in housing conditions and access to essential services[366].

[365] National project Step by Step II, available at: https://www.employment.gov.sk/files/slovensky/esf/op-slovensko/vyzvy-dop/vyzva-krok-za-krokom-ii.pdf.

[366] Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities, *National Project on the Settlement of Land Ownership and Legal-Use Relations in Marginalised Roma Communities*, reported under the National Roma Strategic Framework and ESF+ implementation, available at https://romovia.vlada.gov.sk/en/projects/.

Table 25 - Finland

Finland	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	Finland's National Roma Policy (ROMPO 3) 2023–2030,[367] acompanied by the 2023 – 2026 implementation plan.[368]
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates	Council of Europe estimates 10 000-12 000 Roma in Finland (0.21% of the population)[369]
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Advisory Board on Romani Affairs.
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
In 2023 – 2025, the NRCP operated without an earmarked budget and with only one staff member, based in the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. Despite these limited resources, its institutional mandate remained extensive: the NRCP is responsible for coordinating and monitoring the National Roma Strategic Framework, overseeing Roma-related issues across government, and managing periodic UN and domestic reporting as well as consultation processes at national and European levels. It also serves as the Secretariat of the National Roma Platform. The NRCP's role in mainstreaming Roma inclusion across sectoral policies and EU-funded programmes has been limited. Its involvement is largely consultative. It has no role in decision-making on the programming and monitoring of EU funds and is not a member of its Monitoring Committee.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: A key achievement under this objective is the mainstreaming of antigypsyism across projects involving the central administration, regional authorities, municipalities and Roma associations, to raise public awareness among the majority population. Young Roma have been actively involved as key actors, educating other young people and Roma adults. The Ministry of the Interior has been monitoring ethnic profiling since 2023 as a priority. Equality training, including on the prohibition of ethnic profiling, is mandatory for all police officers. The Ministry of Justice participated in the implementation of the antigypsyism priority axis of ROMPO 3 by running EU-funded CERV projects. In 2023 – 2024, the Government adopted an action plan for combating racism and promoting equality. It also launched the 'Action, not only words' campaign[370]. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs report that Finland has improved its overall knowledge base on discrimination, brought antigypsyism into the 2024 Government action plan for the first time, launched an extensive anti-racism campaign 'Action, not only words'[371], and integrated Roma history and culture into major national cultural institutions. However, Roma continue to be among the groups most discriminated against in the EU, with discrimination worsening between 2020 and 2023. In 2023, 11%[372] of offences based on ethnic or national origin in Finland were committed against the Roma community. Public and third sector resources to support Roma have been	

[367] Available at: Finland's National Roma Policy (ROMPO 3) 2023-2030. Publications of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2023:15. http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-00-8345-8.
[368] Available at: Implementation plan 2023–2026 for Finland's National Roma Policy (ROMPO 3). Reports and Memorandums of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2024:17. http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-00-6892-9 and https://julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi/bitstreams/d6fd1306-ae19-42eb-9cc8-899a895b876b/download.
[369] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[370] Available at: https://valtioneuvosto.fi/en/-/government-campaign-action-not-only-words-challenges-actors-to-adopt-practical-measures-against-racism.
[371] Available at: https://valtioneuvosto.fi/en/-/government-campaign-action-not-only-words-challenges-actors-to-adopt-practical-measures-against-racism.
[372] Available at: https://valtioneuvosto.fi/en/-/25254699/the-number-of-suspected-hate-crimes-peaked-last-year.

reduced.

ASSESSMENT: Finland has made progress in mainstreaming antigypsyism awareness and integrating equality training into police services. Ensuring adequate public and third sector resources for Roma support remains an important consideration for the sustainability of existing initiatives. Restoring structured cooperation between police and Roma CSOs, which ended in 2024, could contribute to a more effective response to hate crimes and ethnic profiling. Strengthening provisions related to hate speech within the NRSF may further support evidence-based and targeted action against antigypsyism.

REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Progress under this objective is reflected in targeted, Roma-led initiatives addressing social exclusion. The D7 project of the Finnish Romani Forum[373], funded by STEA (Funding Centre for Social Welfare and Health Organisations) [374] for 2022 – 2024, promoted the equality and inclusion of Roma with a criminal background by strengthening support networks and boosting societal engagement. Romano Missio's project Naisten Kulma (Women's Corner) [375], which support former Romani women prisoners, now receives permanent funding. Roma organisations are actively involved in projects supporting Roma youth, families and Roma of all ages. ROMPO 3 identifies substance abuse, mental health problems and crime as key challenges linked to poverty among Roma.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs stress that progress in reducing poverty and social exclusion among Roma remains limited. According to a survey among elderly Roma in 2024, 29% received only the national pension (EUR 775.70) or less[376]. Migrant Roma continue to live in conditions of extreme poverty and social marginalisation. Significant cuts in basic social security benefits in 2024 have been estimated to increase the number of people needing social assistance by 100,000, of whom 27 000 are minors, with impacts likely to affect Roma communities disproportionately.[377]

ASSESSMENT: Finland demonstrates active Roma-led commitment to addressing social exclusion through targeted projects. However, poverty among Roma remains a persistent concern. The NRSF's approach could be broadened beyond employment to better reflect the multidimensional nature of poverty, encompassing health inequalities, discrimination and access to adequate social protection. The significant cuts to basic social security benefits in 2024 may have an impact on Roma communities and on the sustainability of the progress achieved through existing initiatives. Consideration could be given to ensuring that Roma — including migrant Roma — have effective access to social protection and support services.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Progress under this objective is reflected in the application of the "nothing about us without us" principle, with Roma involved as key actors in project implementation. The ESF+ funded Active Agency project, coordinated by The Finish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), supports inclusion and equality in the service sector with Roma partners. The ESF+ funded Opportunity for Participation project (Diak and Finnish Romani Forum, 2023 – 2026)[378], strengthens inclusion and employment pathways locally. The Advisory Board on Romani Affairs (RONK)[379] half of whose members represent the Roma population, convenes five to six times per year, to ensure structured Roma involvement in policy oversight.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report that Finland has a vibrant Roma civil society, but most organisations operate without paid staff and with very limited funding, significantly restricting their capacity. By the end of March 2025, six ESF+ projects with a total planned EU funding of EUR 2.9 million marked a significant step forward; public organisations often provided co-funding on behalf of Roma CSOs, which lack permanent funding. Awareness of Roma affairs is strong at ministerial level but not at regional and local levels. Migrant Roma remain largely excluded from formal participation in decision-making processes.

[373] Available at: Finnish Romani Forum – Confront, challenge and influence.
[374] Available at: https://www.stea.fi/en/.
[375] Available at: https://www.romanomissio.fi/briefly-in-english/.
[376] Available at: https://www.romacivilmonitoring.eu/countries/finland/.
[377] Available at: https://www.romacivilmonitoring.eu/countries/finland/.
[378] Available at: https://mahdollisuusosallisuuteen.fi/tietoa-hankkeesta/.
[379] Available at: https://stm.fi/en/participation-roma.

ASSESSMENT: Finland has made progress in embedding the 'nothing about us without us' principle, supported by ESF+ investment and Roma-led project implementation. To consolidate these gains, strengthening the financial foundations of Roma civil society, securing dedicated funding for the NRSF, and expanding awareness of Roma affairs to regional and local levels would support long-term sustainability. Ensuring more meaningful access to formal participation processes for migrant Roma remains an important consideration going forward.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: Progress under this objective is reflected in a gradual increase in the number of Roma entering higher education and a more positive attitude towards education. Building on progress achieved during the ROMPO 2 programme period, the 'Romako – Steps to Tomorrow' project (2021 – 2024)[380], managed by Diakonia University of Applied Sciences, had a concrete impact on the educational and professional pathways of over 200 Roma. Finland reports that there are no separate schools or segregated education for Roma. The Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture has funded the Finnish Romani Association's 'Amengo skoola' project[381] and a report on Romani-speaking children in primary and lower secondary education.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs note that Finland has taken several steps forward in promoting inclusive education for Roma youth. The extension of compulsory education to age 18 in 2021 supports the completion of secondary education, contributing to raising education levels among Roma. Targeted initiatives have supported Roma in completing vocational qualifications, pursuing higher education, and strengthening engagement with public authorities. However, in 2024, only 12 Roma pupils received education in the Romani language, due to a lack of interest among school principals and a shortage of qualified teachers[382].

ASSESSMENT: Progress in Roma education is reflected in a gradual increase in higher education participation and the concrete outcomes of targeted projects such as 'Romako' [383]. To build on these gains, ensuring continuity beyond project-based funding and embedding Roma inclusion within mainstream education systems would boost long-term impact. The limited provision of Romani language education reflects a gap in institutional commitment; strengthening school-level accountability and expanding the pool of qualified Romani language teachers would be important steps forward. Continued investment in inclusive pathways across vocational and higher education would support more equitable and sustainable outcomes for Roma pupils.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: Progress under this objective is reflected in rising educational levels among Roma, and this has improved their access to a wider range of positions, including expert roles in municipal and state services. Key achievements include the implementation of the Working Life Diversity Programme[384] of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, which includes measures to strengthen diversity competence among employees and improve understanding of racism and discrimination in the public sector and the public employment service. The 'Ternengo butti' project (Finnish Romani Association, 2023–2024) [385], funded by Erasmus+, targeted young Roma to improve their access to employment.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs report that Finland has supported Roma employment through projects helping young and migrant Roma access jobs and internships. Despite this, Roma job seekers continue to face significant disadvantages due to their ethnic background. In 2023, the employer subsidy for hiring was reduced from 100% to 70% of payroll costs, which CSOs consider to have weakened incentives to hire Roma. Since 2024, young people under 25 must actively seek education or employment to keep their unemployment benefits. CSOs also raised concerns that the transfer of employment services from the state to municipalities in 2025 could result in service

[380] Available at: https://romako.diak.fi/romako-%e2%88%92-askeleet-huomiseen/.
[381] Available at: https://nuortenakatemia.fi/materiaalit/amengo-skoola-menetelmapakka-romanikulttuurista/.
[382] Available at: https://www.romacivilmonitoring.eu/countries/finland/.
[383] Available at: https://www.oph.fi/fi/teemat-ja-kehittaminen/erityisen-tervetulleita-ryhmia-tukevien-toimintamallien-kehittaminen?utm.
[384] Available at: https://tem.fi/en/working-life-diversity-programme.
[385] Available at: https://www.suomenromaniyhdistys.fi/hanketoiminta/hankkeet/ternengo-butti./.

discontinuities.

ASSESSMENT: Progress in Roma employment is reflected in rising educational levels and the implementation of diversity training initiatives in the public sector. To consolidate these gains, monitoring the impact of recent policy changes — including the reduction of employer subsidies, stricter conditions for youth unemployment benefits, and the transfer of employment services to municipalities in 2025 — would help identify and address new vulnerabilities for Roma job seekers. Tackling antigypsyism as a persistent barrier to employment and ensuring continuity of employment support services during the transition to municipal delivery would further strengthen Finland's approach in this area.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Progress under this objective is reflected in two targeted health initiatives. As part of the National Mental Health Strategy (2020 – 2030) [386], the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) implemented a project (2023 – 2024) on training Roma community members to initiate mental wellbeing discussions, promoting culturally and linguistically accessible materials and providing a platform for young Roma voices. The Finnish Roma Association's 'Sastipe tukke – Health for You' project (2021 – 2024)[387] aimed to increase health literacy among Roma women of working age.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs stress that progress in improving Roma health and ensuring equal access to healthcare and social services remains limited. The health and wellbeing of Roma continue to be worse than within the general population, with 20–30% estimated to be living with vulnerabilities related to intergenerational poverty, marginalisation, crime and drugs. Racist and discriminatory attitudes are reported to be deeply rooted in the Finnish healthcare system. The lack of disaggregated data prevents targeted action, and CSOs call for follow-up to the THL Roma wellbeing survey. Migrant Roma face additional obstacles due to language barriers and digital exclusion.

ASSESSMENT: Finland has taken steps to address Roma health inequalities through culturally sensitive initiatives targeting mental wellbeing and health literacy. Building on these efforts, further progress could focus on commissioning follow-up to the THL Roma wellbeing survey to provide an updated evidence base for targeted action. Improving disaggregated data collection would support more effective policymaking. Addressing discriminatory attitudes within the healthcare system and reducing obstacles faced by migrant Roma in the form of language barriers and digital exclusion could further improve access to services. The increase in drug-induced deaths among young Roma is a factor that could be further reflected in the NRSF.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Reported progress under this objective reflects Finland's established legislative and funding frameworks for housing. According to the Finnish authorities there is no history of segregated housing, with housing location primarily determined by economic factors and essential services generally accessible. However, most contacts by the Roma to the Office of the Non-Discrimination Ombudsman[388] concern housing-related challenges. The Act on support to municipalities for housing advisory services in 2023-2027 enables municipalities to develop housing advice, which may also take into account challenges relating to Roma housing[389]. Following a legislative amendment, housing advice support is available for all forms of housing, and municipalities can apply for grants from ARA — the Housing Finance and Development Centre of Finland. The ROMPO 3 programme seeks to address longstanding housing challenges through more concrete and innovative approaches.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs highlight that positive trends in Roma housing are at risk. The diminished role of the Ministry of the Environment, cuts to the general housing allowance, and strict income restrictions are pushing low-income Roma families to city outskirts with limited services and transport. Discrimination in the housing market and racist behaviour from other residents persist. The outsourcing of housing services to private companies without accountability mechanisms leaves Roma with no effective avenue for complaints. Migrant Roma

[386] Available at: https://thl.fi/en/research-and-development/research-and-projects/national-mental-health-strategy-2020-2030.
[387] Available at: https://www.suomenromaniyhdistys.fi/hanketoiminta/kotimaan-tyo/terveystyo-sastipe-tukke/ .
[388] Available at: https://yhdenvertaisuusvaltuutettu.fi/en/ .
[389] Available at: Implementation plan 2023–2026 for Finland's National Roma Policy (ROMPO 3) .

face additional barriers, compounded by the rapid digitalisation of housing services.

ASSESSMENT: Finland is encouraged to build on its established legislative and funding frameworks by addressing the structural concerns highlighted by civil society. The ARA grant mechanism and indirect cohesion policy support represent opportunities from which Roma populations could benefit more effectively. Strengthening accountability mechanisms in outsourced housing services, addressing discrimination in the housing market, and reducing digitalisation barriers could help consolidate previous gains.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRESS: Finland has strengthened its institutional framework for Roma participation through several mechanisms. The Advisory Board on Romani Affairs (RONK), functioning in conjunction with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, includes up to 16 members - half representing Roma and half representing relevant Ministries — and convenes five to six times per year. The NRCP's role is mainly consultative, supported by four regional Roma work planners providing weekly updates on local conditions. ROMPO 3 places greater emphasis on regional measures, with regional advisory boards and local Romani working groups playing an expanded role. Around 25 local Roma working groups currently operate at municipal level.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: The National Advisory Board of Romani Affairs conducted a mid-term review of the NRSF in spring 2025. However, CSOs note a lack of transparency in the process, with many civil servants and Roma civil society representatives reporting they were unaware of the review. CSOs report that long-standing cooperation between the Police and Roma CSOs on hate crimes, hate speech and preventive initiatives ended in 2024, shifting focus towards reactive crime response rather than prevention[390].. CSOs report that heightening polarisation has increased reluctance among Roma to speak out about racism, fearing it may generate further hostility. No government funding is allocated to Roma CSOs for monitoring and reporting on NRSF implementation.

ASSESSMENT: Finland has established meaningful structures for Roma participation through RONK and the network of local Roma working groups. More inclusive NRSF monitoring and review processes could support broader ownership among civil society and public administrations. Consideration could also be given to restoring structured cooperation between police and Roma CSOs, which may contribute to more effective hate crime prevention and trust-building. Ensuring adequate funding for Roma CSOs for NRSF monitoring and reporting, and for NRCP and NRSF implementation more broadly, remains an important consideration for the long-term sustainability of Finland's Roma inclusion efforts.

PROMISING PRACTICES

The 'Romako – Steps to Tomorrow' project (2021 – 2024), managed by Diakonia University of Applied Sciences and funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture, supported adult Roma in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area in completing vocational qualifications, finding jobs and internships, and pursuing higher education. Targeting Roma over the age of 25 without secondary education or employment in specific field, the project encouraged employers to improve structural access to the labour market, including through the *Regardless of Background* employer pool, where companies committed to offering opportunities to Roma candidates. The project had a concrete impact on the educational and professional pathways of over 200 Roma. [391]

[390] Available at: https://www.romacivilmonitoring.eu/countries/finland/.
[391] The employer pool remains active at www.tyonantajapooli.fi.

Table 26 - Sweden

Sweden	
APPROACH OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (NRSF)	Sweden's National Roma Strategic Framework (NRSF), 'A coordinated and long-term strategy for Roma inclusion 2012-2032', was adopted in 2012 with a forward-looking perspective extending until 2032. 392
ESTIMATED ROMA POPULATION Council of Europe estimates (plus national census data, where available)	Council of Europe estimates: approximately 50 000 (0.53% of the population)[393]
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT (NRCP)	Ministry of Culture[394]
NATIONAL ROMA CONTACT POINT	
The NRCP function, which was under the Ministry of Culture during the period covered by this report, has since been moved to the Government Offices of Sweden. The NRCP had no dedicated annual budget and employed one staff member during the reporting period. The Stockholm Country Administrative Board coordinates and monitors the implementation of the National Roma Strategic Framework in Sweden, supporting municipalities and developing working methods and practices for Roma inclusion. It holds regular meetings with the Government Offices and cooperates with a Roma reference group appointed by the Ministry of Culture on policy development and NRSF implementation.	
HORIZONTAL OBJECTIVES	
FIGHT AND PREVENT ANTIGYPSYISM AND DISCRIMINATION	
REPORTED PROGRESS: A key measure is the 'Living History Forum' school initiative, which provides targeted educational resources on Roma history and culture and antigypsyism. Awareness-raising activities have also been organised to strengthen recognition of the Roma national minority and highlight challenges linked to antigypsyism. These initiatives focus on Roma history, culture and language and the current situation of Roma people in Sweden. Developed specifically for schools, the educational resources aim to increase knowledge and understanding, while helping to combat social exclusion and antigypsyism through education and greater public awareness. **FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY:** CSOs stress the need to establish specific measurable objectives, along with clear indicators and binding mechanisms to combat antigypsyism. Hate crimes with antigypsyist motives remain severely underreported. CSOs point out that the effectiveness of current efforts is heavily reliant on the willingness of individual municipalities to implement them. CSOs also emphasise the importance of having disaggregated data to facilitate monitoring. **ASSESSMENT**: The 'Action Plan to Combat Racism and Hate Crime' provides a useful basis for addressing antigypsyism and supporting inclusion. Its long-term impact could be strengthened by introducing clearer Roma-specific objectives, measurable indicators, and more consistent monitoring within the NRSF. Improved coordination across municipalities, stronger Roma participation in inclusion programmes, and the collection of data broken down by ethnicity would support more targeted and evidence-based policies. Addressing the persistent underreporting of antigypsyist hate crimes and ensuring sustained institutional commitment remain important steps for improving the effectiveness of future measures.	
REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION	

[392] Government Offices of Sweden. 2012. A coordinated and Long-Term Strategy for Roma Inclusion 2012-2032. Available at: https://www.regeringen.se/rattsliga-dokument/skrivelse/2012/.
[393] Available at: https://rm.coe.int/1680088ea9.
[394] As of January 2026, the NRCP is hosted by the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society.

REPORTED PROGRESS: Sweden did not report on this objective.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs stress the need to shift from project-based interventions to long-term structural reforms that involve Roma in the design and implementation processes. Exclusion and segregation persist, and Roma families remain concentrated in socio-economically deprived suburbs, often characterised by high crime rates, limited employment opportunities and inadequate social infrastructure. As a result, targeted social protection measures to systematically tackle Roma poverty and social exclusion, including of Roma children, are needed. Specific attention should be given to financial exclusion and over-indebtedness, which foster cycles of poverty.

ASSESSMENT: Sweden addresses Roma poverty mainly through universal social policies. However, reports for 2023-2025 show no funding specifically allocated to poverty reduction measures targeting Roma communities. Restrictions on disaggregating data by ethnicity also prevent the setting of quantitative targets, leaving the 2032 equality goal without clear benchmarks for measuring progress. While municipal grants support local inclusion initiatives, the reliance on indirect measures means that evidence of their impact on poverty reduction is limited. Achieving meaningful long-term equality will require targeted social protection measures and stronger monitoring mechanisms to effectively safeguard the rights of Roma children and assess progress towards parity.

PROMOTE PARTICIPATION THROUGH EMPOWERMENT, COOPERATION AND TRUST

REPORTED PROGRESS: Sweden prioritised local empowerment by allocating grants to municipalities to promote Roma inclusion via the Stockholm County Administrative Board. These grants funded 29 local inclusion projects – cultural initiatives, employment support and education programmes – while a Roma reference group advised policymakers. The NRCP also holds at least two meetings annually with this 20-strong gender-balanced group to discuss policy development. Increased awareness and participation of Roma and non-Roma communities have been reported, along with stronger networks and improved collaboration.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: The establishment of formal consultation structures and the appointment of Roma coordinators or bridgebuilders in municipalities are considered evidence of progress. However, CSOs note that Roma participation in policymaking remains limited. It is recommended that Roma be better embedded in core policymaking processes through institutionalised co-ownership mechanisms, and that sufficient long-term funding be provided for capacity-building.

ASSESSMENT: Swedish initiatives under this objective have strengthened Roma visibility, cooperation at municipal level and local inclusion efforts, while the municipal grant model provides a promising foundation for long-term progress. Deeper institutional integration and sustainable funding could help embed Roma participation more firmly within policymaking processes. Strengthening outreach, monitoring frameworks and data collection methods would also support more measurable evaluation of outcomes. Continued efforts to address antigypsyism and ensure meaningful Roma participation will be essential to achieve progress on equal access to opportunities and lasting inclusion of Roma communities.

SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

REPORTED PROGRESS: To enhance Roma inclusion in education, the Swedish National Agency for Education and the National Board of Health and Welfare developed a training programme for Roma mediators for the period 2022-2024. The programme was intended to enable people with Romani language and Roma cultural skills to work in various educational settings, including preschool, school, after-school care, adult education and social services. However, there have been difficulties in attracting participants, reflecting broader difficulties in engaging Roma communities and resulting in the programme's impact being limited. To address these shortcomings, municipal and regional initiatives have been identified as potential bridge builders and are encouraged to design tailored programmes – such as culturally sensitive outreach and mediator roles – aligned with specific Roma community needs.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge that progress, albeit limited, has been achieved with regard to persistent systemic barriers. Antigypsyism in schools is still widespread, as evidenced in bullying, low teacher expectations and social exclusion. The lack of specific and measurable objectives, including monitoring of Roma students' educational outcomes, has been noted as a significant obstacle, hindering impact measurements. CSOs also underline the need for Roma history and culture to be integrated into school curricula and for Roma to be involved in

shaping education policies. Structural gaps, such as insufficient teacher capacity, the absence of a binding framework for Roma inclusion in curricula and limited Roma participation in policymaking, continue to hinder meaningful progress.

ASSESSMENT: Sweden could build on existing support for Romani mother tongue instruction and growing awareness of school-based antigypsyism by strengthening participation in Roma mediator programmes and expanding targeted educational support. Addressing persistent educational disparities, including high dropout rates and limited continuation into further training, will require sustained and inclusive policy efforts. Developing stronger monitoring frameworks and data collection methods within the existing legal framework could also support the establishment of measurable objectives and more effective evaluation of educational outcomes, which would help strengthen accountability and evidence-based policymaking to increase Roma inclusion in education.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

REPORTED PROGRESS: In 2024, the Swedish Public Employment Service (PES) was mandated to improve Roma labour market integration. A range of actions have been developed to disseminate information about support to the Roma community, including four webinars, a podcast aimed at young people and the provision of services in the Romani language. Efforts have been made to improve opportunities for young Roma and Roma women, and internal capacity-building initiatives have been undertaken to increase knowledge of Roma as a national minority and awareness of antigypsyism in the labour market. The PES is also developing monitoring indicators and cooperating with municipalities to reach Roma jobseekers with the support of Roma mediators.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs acknowledge the positive impact of the assignment given by the Government to the Public Employment Service. However, they have raised concerns regarding the absence of a coherent policy framework with clear targets for combating antigypsyism in the labour market. Roma inclusion measures have been found to lack monitoring and evaluation mechanisms due to the absence of data disaggregated by ethnicity or race. The need for comprehensive measures to address economic barriers and financial exclusion, including over-indebtedness and limited access to credit, was also highlighted. Additionally, CSOs have pointed out that the potential of Roma bridgebuilders in employment, training and entrepreneurship remains underexploited.

ASSESSMENT: The new initiatives launched by Sweden to improve the integration of Roma in the labour market contain proactive steps, such as targeted communication (podcasts/webinars) and local partnerships. These promising practices could be applied to broader challenges and the persistence of systemic barriers, namely the lack of clear targets for reducing antigypsyism in the labour market and of data disaggregated by ethnicity. Current efforts, while promising and a reflection of institutional commitment, remain fragmented and difficult to evaluate.

IMPROVE ROMA HEALTH AND EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: The National Agency for Education and the National Board of Health and Welfare have been tasked by the Government with developing training programmes for Roma mediators with Romani language and Roma cultural skills to work in the school system, social services and healthcare. However, the programme has encountered difficulties in attracting participants and is heavily reliant on Government funding. Efforts are being made to identify initiatives and functions at regional and municipal level that could serve as bridgebuilders and thus help tailor efforts to local needs and conditions.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: CSOs stress the absence of systemic measures, with initiatives being short-term and project-based and having limited reach and impact. The need to address structural barriers faced by vulnerable Roma groups, including older people, LGBTI people and people with disabilities, has been emphasised, particularly in relation to discrimination in healthcare, cultural insensitivity and fear of prejudice. Trust-building efforts are needed in this regard. In addition, the lack of updated data (the most recent report on Roma health dates back to 2018) and the absence of systematic collection of disaggregated data on Roma health outcomes have been cited as major obstacles to effective progress.

ASSESSMENT: Sweden made some progress in this area through bridgebuilder training, awareness-raising initiatives and local projects targeting Roma inclusion, particularly of vulnerable groups. However, these efforts remain fragmented and have limited impact, with equitable access to healthcare for Roma still hindered by the absence of a national strategy, a limited number of Roma health mediators, limited reach, lack of data, persistent discrimination and low trust.

INCREASE EFFECTIVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADEQUATE DESEGREGATED HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

REPORTED PROGRESS: Sweden did not report any achievements under this objective in the current reporting period.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: While CSOs recognise as positive steps local initiatives undertaken by a few municipalities to incorporate Roma perspectives into housing-related dialogue, they also emphasise the need for more comprehensive and binding measures. Roma continue to face both direct and indirect discrimination in the housing market and remain confined to socio-economically vulnerable suburban areas and subletting, which offers less legal protection and often comes with higher rents. CSOs stress the importance of establishing clear housing-related objectives and monitoring mechanisms and the need to implement targeted measures to address persistent discrimination in the housing market, spatial segregation and economic and financial barriers.

ASSESSMENT: Looking ahead, Sweden could boost progress towards its 2032 equality goal by developing more effective monitoring frameworks and evidence-based indicators within existing data protection standards. Future efforts would benefit from targeted monitoring, integrated social protection measures and stronger coordination across housing and social inclusion policies to better identify disparities and support long-term equality outcomes for Roma communities.

PARTNERSHIPS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

REPORTED PROGRES: Promoting Roma participation is a key component of Sweden's national minority policy, which requires municipalities and regions to establish objectives and guidelines for their minority policy work and provide opportunities for national minorities to exert influence. To date, 29 municipalities and regions working on Roma inclusion have goals and guidelines. Additionally, a 20-member Roma Reference Group meets with the NRSF's managing authority at least twice a year, providing a mechanism for Roma participation. However, Roma participation remains fragile, with no dedicated funding for Roma and pro-Roma CSOs to monitor and report on NRSF implementation.

FEEDBACK FROM CIVIL SOCIETY: Mechanisms for Roma participation remain limited, resulting in restricted influence and inclusiveness. CSOs underline the absence of formal monitoring and evaluation mechanisms involving Roma and pro-Roma CSOs. They also emphasise the importance of involving Roma and pro-Roma CSOs in hate crime monitoring and victim support, building on promising initiatives to establish dialogue councils in some police regions.

ASSESSMENT: To strengthen Roma inclusion in Sweden, authorities could establish formal monitoring and evaluation mechanisms involving Roma and pro-Roma CSOs and provide dedicated funding to support their participation. Expanding the mandate and inclusiveness of existing participation structures, strengthening Roma involvement in hate crime monitoring and victim support, and ensuring consistent engagement across municipalities and regions would help turn consultative processes into meaningful influence.

PROMISING PRACTICE

Sweden's Government Grant Scheme, managed by the Stockholm County Administrative Board, is a promising practice that empowers municipalities to promote local Roma inclusion. Grants fund projects in education, employment, housing, health and culture, and help build local capacity and foster trust between authorities and Roma communities. Outcomes include increased visibility of Roma history and improved inter-sectoral networks. Despite challenges such as short timelines and antigypsyism, the scheme is key to achieving the 2032 equality goal. This decentralised model ensures sustainable action tailored to local needs and promotes long-term social participation.

APPENDIX: Country overview of the quantitative targets set in the NRSF, and progress made as reported by Member States with a significant Roma populations.[395]

Bulgaria Country submission 2025

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Objective 1 - Antigypsyism and discrimination							
Relative share of Roma who have been discriminated against (in any area) in the last 12 months and have reported this (%)	8.0	2020	16.0	2030	no data	2025	NSI/FRA survey 2020
Relative share of Roma who have been discriminated against for any reason (in any of the areas included in the study) in the last 12 months (%)	17.9	2020	9.0	2030	no data	2025	NSI/FRA survey 2020
Objective 2 - Poverty and social exclusion							
Share of basic or above basic common digital skills of persons aged 16 to 74 living in a household with children under 16 years of age (%)	31.2[396]	2021	58.0	2030	39.2	2023	Eurostat
Reaching the EU average of the Relative share of households with Internet access (%)	83.5	2021	91.0	2030	92.1	2024	NSI, Eurostat
Relative share of children (0-15 years) living in material deprivation (deprived of at least one of the 13 indicators) (%)	18.4	2020	9.2	2030	28.6	2024	NSI, BG-SILC
Relative share of children under 18 at risk of poverty (%)	28.5	2020	14.2	2030	28.2	2024	NSI, BG-SILC
Relative share of people at risk of poverty (%)	23.8	2020	11.9	2030	21.7	2024	NSI, BG-SILC
Reaching the EU average of the burden of housing costs according to poverty (%)	14.4	2020	7.8	2030	8.0	2024	NSI, BG-SILC
Objective 3 - Participation							
N/A							
Objective 4 - Education							
Proportion of children aged from 4 to the age of compulsory primary education attending pre-school education (%)	82.3	2020	91.0	2030	92.6	2024	NSI, Survey of Educational Institutions
Relative share of young people (aged 20-24) with at least secondary education (%)	85.4	2020	89.0	2030	90.2	2024	NSI, LFS
Relative share of children aged 6-14 from households in which at least one member self- identified as Roma attending schools where "all or most of the classmates are Roma" (%)	58	2020	58.0	2020	58.0	2020	NSI/FRA survey 2020
Early school leavers (relative share of persons aged 18-24 who completed at most primary education and did not participate in education and training, within the population of the same age.) (%)	12.8	2020	7.0	2030	8.2	2024	NSI
Net enrolment ratio of the population in the educational system (V- XII grade) (%)	86.3	2020	90.0	2030	89.6	2024	NSI, Survey of Educational Institutions
Share of teachers prepared for teaching in multicultural conditions (%)	25.8	2018	35.0	2030	25.8	2018	OECD TALIS
Objective 5 - Employment							

[395] Compiled by The European Agency of Fundamental Rights (FRA) based on country submissions.

[396] Available at: Eurostat, (online data code isoc_sk_dskl_i21), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ISOC_SK_DSKL_I21__custom_22309136/default/table.

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Employment rate of persons aged 20-64 (%)	73.4	2020	72.3	2030	76.8	2024	NSI, LFS
Employment rates for men and women aged 20-64 (%)	Men 77.8	2020	EU average	2030	Men 80.3	2024	NSI, LFS
Relative share of young people aged 15-29 who are not employed or in education (%)	18.1	2020	13.7	2030	12.7	2024	NSI, LFS
Relative share of the poor who self-identified as employed, by ethnicity (Roma) (%)	31.9	2020	Halve	2030	47.2	2024	NSI, BG-SILC
Objective 6 - Health							
Average life expectancy	74.6 years	2020	79.5 years	2030	73.5 years	2023	NSI
Unmet need for medical care in the lowest income quintile - share of persons aged 16 and over from the first quintile with unmet needs (%)	5.4	2020	EU average	2030	5.4	2020	NSI
Objective 7 - Housing							
Relative share of people living in poor housing conditions, Roma (%)	43.5	2020	29.0	2030	43.5	2020	NSI, not measured after 2021
Relative share of persons living in overcrowded housing, Roma (%)	76.9	2020	38.5	2030	67.5	2024	NSI, BG-SILC
Relative share of persons living in a household without a toilet and bathroom inside the home, Roma (%)	34.7	2020	17.4	2030	34.7	2020	NSI, not measured after 2021

Czechia Country submission 2025

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Objective 1 - Antigypsyism and discrimination							
Reported Hate Crimes (% of Crimes)	8	2017	30	2030	N/A	2024	N/A
Roma who reported or filed a complaint about the last case of discrimination based on Roma origin (% of Roma)	15	2016	30	2030	8	2024	Report on the Socio-economic Situation of the Roma Population in the Czech Republic 2023/2024 (https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf)
Monitoring and evaluations of the level of antigypsyism in the society are included in the Report on the Status of the Roma Minority for the relevant year (number/year)	0	2021	1 per year	2030	1 per year	2024	Report on the Socio-economic Situation of the Roma Population in the Czech Republic 2023/2024 (https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf)
Roma who reported being discriminated against on the basis of Roma origin in the last 12 months. (% of Roma)	32	2016	15	2030	28.4	2024	Report on the Socio-economic Situation of the Roma Population in the Czech Republic 2023/2024 (https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf)
Roma who reported being harassed or persecuted because of their Roma ethnicity in the last 12 months (% of Roma)	56	2016	30	2030	30	2024	Report on the Socio-economic Situation of the Roma Population in the Czech Republic 2023/2024 (https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf)
Objective 2 - Poverty and social exclusion							
N/A							
Objective 3 - Participation							

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Municipalities in which a committee or commission for national minorities has been established and the Roma minority is represented in it (number of municipalities)	5	2019	15	2030	5	2023	Regional Coordinators for Roma Minority Affairs
Regions in which a committee or commission for national minorities has been established and the Roma minority is represented in it (number of regions)	8	2019	10	2030	6	2023	Regional Coordinators for Roma Minority Affairs
Working bodies at the level of central state administration bodies that deal with matters concerning the Roma minority and in which there is a representative of the Roma minority (number of working bodies)	20	2021	40	2030	N/A	2024	N/A
Financial support for the activities of the Museum of Roma Culture for the period 2021 - 2030 / year (in CZK)	32 mil.	2021	38 mil.	2030	33.5 mil.	2024	Ministry of Culture
Volume of financial resources intended to support cultural activities of all national minorities; from which it is possible to finance cultural activities of the Roma minority (amount/year) in CZK	12 525 600	2019	13 778 160	2030	12 525 600	2019	Ministry of Culture
The volume of funds intended for financing education and dissemination of information for all national minorities; from which it is also possible to finance projects of the Roma minority (amount/year) in CZK	38 889 000	2021	42 777 900	2030	38 889 000	2021	Ministry of Culture
Regular TV/Radio formats in which Romani culture will be presented, including the use of Romani language (number of formats/year)	3	2021	3	2030	3	2024	Office of the Government, Czech TV, Czech Radio
Number of TV/Radio formats that support Romani culture; language and multiethnic coexistence in prime time/attractive broadcast times and stations	3	2021	3	2030	3	2024	Office of the Government, Czech TV, Czech Radio
Existence of financial support from which it is possible to finance media activities of all national minorities, including Roma (0=No/1=Yes)	0	2021	1	2030	0	2024	Office of the Government
The existence of a compensation mechanism for the confiscated property of Czech Roma in the years 1938 - 1945 (0=No/1=Yes)	0	2021	1	2030	0	2024	Office of the Government
Objective 4 - Education							
Participation of Roma children in pre-school education (in %)	43	2016	86	2030	44.6	2024	Report on the Socio-economic Situation of the Roma Population in the Czech Republic 2023/2024 (https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf)
Roma over 16 years of age who felt discriminated against because of their Roma status in contact with school (% of Roma)	19	2016	10	2030	14.5	2024	Report on the Socio-economic Situation of the Roma Population in the Czech Republic 2023/2024 (https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf)
Primary schools with 50% or more representation of Roma pupils (number of schools)	70	2018	35	2030	66	2022	https://www.paqresearch.cz/post/segregace-romu-vzdelavani/
Primary schools with 34% or more representation of Roma pupils (number of schools)	147	2018	70	2030	126	2022	https://www.paqresearch.cz/post/segregace-romu-vzdelavani/

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Regular collection of relevant data and their evaluation in relation to the measures set and the results of these findings, including setting the desired government intervention to take into account the conclusions in question in the areas of education, institutional education and care of Roma child (0=No/1=Yes)	0	2018	1	2030	0	2024	Strategy for Roma Integration
Share of Roma pupils out of all pupils educated in programmes for pupils with mild mental disabilities (% of Roma pupils)	29.1	2018	15	2030	30.4	2025	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
Share of Roma pupils educated in primary special schools out of all Roma pupils in primary education (% of Roma pupils)	10.7	2018	5	2030	9.5	2025	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
Share of Roma pupils out of the total number of pupils educated according to the framework educational programme with reduced demands on educational outcomes (% of Roma pupils)	10.5	2019	5	2030	12.6	2025	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
The existence of a proposed solution for the implementation of social work as a significant element in the field of counselling (0=No/1=Yes)	0	2021	1	2030	1	2025	Ministry of Labour and social Affairs, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
Roma pupils attending upper secondary education (ISCED 3) (% of Roma pupils)	45	2015	80	2030	46.7	2024	https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf
Roma pupils leaving the education system early, i.e. Roma pupils who have completed primary education at most (ISCED 2) (% of Roma aged 16-24)	57	2016	15	2030	59.6	2024	https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf
Share of Roma participating in tertiary education	0	2021	10	2030	0	2022	https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf
Implementation of the topic into the standard for granting accreditation within the framework of the requirements for the creation and content of accreditation files for study programs focused on teaching and non-teaching pedagogy (0=No/1=Yes)	0	2021	1	2030	0	2024	Strategy for Roma Integration
The existence of a comprehensive module in the DVPP system in the area of development of professional pedagogical competencies with a focus on mentoring, supervision, consultancy, project management, adaptation of educational content and provision of advice, including shared methodological support (0=No/1=Yes)	0	2021	1	2030	0	2024	Strategy for Roma Integration
Existence of financial resources to support leisure and extracurricular activities of Roma children, pupils and students (total amount of financial resources) in CZK	67 mil.	2021	300 mil.	2030	1	2024	Strategy for Roma Integration
Objective 5 - Employment							
Roma who felt discriminated against when looking for work in the last 12 months (% of Roma)	28	2016	15	2030	35.3	2024	Report on the Socio-economic Situation of the Roma Population in the Czech Republic 2023/2024 (https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf)
Roma who felt discriminated against at work (% of Roma)	6	2016	3	2030	14.3	2024	Report on the Socio-economic Situation of the Roma Population in the Czech Republic 2023/2024 (https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf)

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Employment rate of Roma," or Roma who reported paid work as their main activity (including full/part-time"," casual work"," self-employment"," seasonal work"," work in the last 4 weeks)"," age 20-64 (% of Roma)"	43	2016	75	2030	45	2024	Report on the Socio-economic Situation of the Roma Population in the Czech Republic 2023/2024 (https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf)
The rate of use of social criteria as an evaluation criterion within the public procurement process according to the principles of the Public Procurement Act (in accordance with Act No. 134/2016 Coll.," on Public Procurement"," as amended) in the total volume of relevant public procurement (%)	0.01	2016	3	2030	N/A	2024	Strategy for Roma Integration 2021-2030
Share of people aged 20–64 from the Roma population who are entrepreneurs and self-employed (% of Roma)	10	2022	15	2030	10	2024	Report on the Socio-economic Situation of the Roma Population in the Czech Republic 2023/2024 (https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf)
Number of Roma involved in active employment policy	0	2021	at least 50% of Roma are long-term unemployed and registered with the Employment Office	2030	N/A	2024	Strategy for Roma Integration 2021-2030
Number of programs aimed at maintaining or creating new jobs	0	2021	2 per year	2030	N/A	2024	Strategy for Roma Integration 2021-2030
Objective 6 - Health							
Number of women who were illegally sterilized and compensated (number)	0	2021	300	2030	889	2025	Ministry of Health
Health support mediators' employment (number of full-time equivalents/region)	3.4/region	2021	see below	2030	N/A	2024	Ministry of Health
The existence of a mandatory educational program in the area of socially and culturally sensitive/relevant healthcare provision (so-called "Culturally sensitive health care") at medical faculties in the Czech Republic (0=No/1=Yes)	0	2021	1	2030	0	2024	Ministry of Health
Support for educational activities of NGOs and schools in the field of health	0	2021	20/year	2030	n/A	2024	Ministry of Health, Office of the Government, Ministry of Education
Number of multidisciplinary field teams	0	2021	14	2030	N/A	2024	Ministry of Health
Representative quantifiable research focused on the health situation of Roma (number of researches)	0	2021	1	2030	0	2024	Office of the Government
Representative quantifiable research on substance use among Roma (number of research studies)	0	2021	1	2030	0	2024	Office of the Government
Existence of monitoring of local and temporal availability of health services (0=No/1=Yes)	0	2021	1	2025	0	2024	Ministry of Health

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Amendment of internal regulations of insurance companies/introduction of legislative amendments strengthening the right to accessible healthcare and dignified treatment (in accordance with Act No. 372/2011 Coll., on health services and conditions of their provision, as amended, Act No. 373/2011 Coll (0=No/1=Yes)	0	2021	1	2030	0	2024	Ministry of Health
Conditions for the implementation of addiction care focused on the at-risk population of children and adolescents in institutional care facilities in the Ministry of Education (0=No/1=Yes)	0	2021	1	2030	0	2024	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education
Addiction services that also serve or are prepared to serve Roma clients (number of services)	2	2021	I. All addiction services are able to work with Roma clients II. The identified need for addiction services for the Roma target group is met at least 80%	2030	N/A	2024	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
a) Discussion on the topic of domestic and gender-based violence in the Roma community at meetings of relevant advisory and working bodies of the government. • Committee for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Violence against Women • Working Group on Roma Women's Issues • Committee for the Right	0	2021	2	2030	0	2024	Office of the Government
Objective 7 - Housing							
Roma who felt discriminated against in access to housing in the last 5 years (% of Roma)	65 %	2016	35 %	2030	55 %	2021	FRA Roma survey 2021
Locations of residential segregation with Roma representation (number of locations)	927	2022	742	2030	N/A	2024	N/A
Average number of rooms per person in a Roma household (number of rooms/person)	0.7	2016	1.4	2030	N/A	2024	N/A
Roma living in dwellings with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundations, or rotting window frames or floors (% of Roma)	21 %	2016	9.2 %	2030	9.4 %	2024	Report on the Socio-economic Situation of the Roma Population in the Czech Republic 2023/2024 (https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf)
Share of Roma households that are recipients of housing benefits (% of Roma households)	43.4 %	2022	30 %	2030	53.8 %	2024	Report on the Socio-economic Situation of the Roma Population in the Czech Republic 2023/2024 (https://katalog.vupsv.cz/fulltext/vz_556.pdf)

Greece Country submission 2025

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Objective 1 - Antigypsyism and discrimination							
Share of general population who would feel uncomfortable having Roma as neighbours (%)	16	2021	10	2030	-	2025	*Not currently measured - general population survey required (NRIS indicator system)*
Roma (16+) who experienced discrimination based on Roma origin in the past 5 years when looking for housing (%)	98.2	2025	42	2030	98.2	2025	*Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey*
Roma who felt discriminated against in any area in the past 12 months due to being Roma and who reported the most recent incident (%)	208 (2024); 918 (2021) 0 (2024-FRA)	2024	15	2030	-	2025	*Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey / FRA Roma Survey 2024*
Roma who experienced discrimination in any area in the past 12 months due to being Roma (%)	93.1	2025	40	2030	93.1	2025	*Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey*
Objective 2 - Poverty and social exclusion							
Children under the age of 18 living in households with severe material deprivation (%)	51	2024	40	2030	-	2025	*FRA Roma Survey 2024*
Share of Roma in households where at least one member had to go to bed hungry at least once in the past month household members (%)	28	2025	20	2030	28	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey
Roma living in households with severe material deprivation (%)	53	2025	45	2030	53	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey
At-risk-of-poverty rate (below 60% of the national median equivalised income after social transfers)	88	2024	80	2030	-	2025	*FRA Roma Survey 2024*
Objective 3 - Participation							
Interest of Roma in politics (%)	61	2025	70	2030	61	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey
Participation of Roma in collective activities (%)	18.8	2025	30	2030	18.8	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey
Development of a national network for facilitating the access of Roma people to social services at local level	66	2023	80	2026	72	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family
Objective 4 - Education							
Share of Roma children of compulsory school age (5–17) attending education (%)	52.4	2025	85	2030	52.4	2025	MySchool, Monitoring Information System/Ministry of Education
Number of participants of foreign background, including Roma and other minorities (CO15), engaged in education, training, or inclusion programmes	7,878	2025	12,000	2030	7,878	2025	MySchool, Monitoring Information System/Ministry of Education
Number of Second Chance School (SCS) participants from disadvantaged groups including Roma(CR05)	6,915	2025	9,000	2030	6,915	2025	Nefeli, Monitoring Information System/Ministry of Education
Number of schools where actions to reduce Early School Leaving (ESL) are implemented	1,154	2025	1,500	2030	1,154	2025	Ministry of Education - ESF Actions Executive Unit
Roma who felt discriminated against because of their Roma background in the past 5 years when interacting with schools (as parents or students), respondents aged 16+ (%)	82.2	2025	55	2030	82.2	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Objective 5 - Employment							
Number of Roma supported through entrepreneurship and subsidized employment programmes	0	2023	150	2030	37	2025	PES
Number of Roma who started a business	0	2023	150	2030	51	2025	PES
Share of Roma who felt discriminated against because of their Roma background when looking for work, respondents aged 16+ (%)	93.1	2025	55	2030	93.1	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey
Number of Roma Social Cooperative Enterprises	3	2023	30	2030	14	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family
Number of Roma participating in Social Cooperative Enterprises	20	2023	250	2030	95	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family
Objective 6 - Health							
Number of Roma vaccinated with PRIORIX (measles, mumps, rubella vaccine)	1,870	2024	3,000	2030	1,870	2024	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey
Share of Roma who rate their general health as “Very good” or “Good”, respondents aged 16+ (%)	75	2025	83	2030	75	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey
Roma with limited access to healthcare and social services (%)	13	2025	0	2030	13	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey
Objective 7 - Housing							
Percentage of Roma individuals benefiting from approved settlement relocation plans (%)	0	2023	15	2030	23	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey
Number of Roma households benefiting from the “Housing and Work for the Homeless” programme	0	2023	150	2030	51 houses	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family
People living in households without tap water inside the dwelling (%)	14	2025	3	2030	14	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey
Share of Roma living in households without a toilet, shower, or bathroom inside the dwelling, household members (%)	15.6	2025	12	2030	15.6	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey
Share of Roma living in households with access to electricity, household members (%)	59	2025	93	2030	59	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey
Roma living in housing deprivation (living in a dwelling that is too dark or has a leaking roof/damp walls and/or floors, without a bath/shower, and without an indoor toilet) (%)	34	2024	30	2030	-	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family survey
Number of Roma participating in Housing and Work Programmes	0	2024	400	2030	166	2025	Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family

Note: * Greek NRCP reported in online reporting tool majority of indicators’ values and targets as ‘to be determined in October 2025’. The NRCP provided updated figures in September 2026.

Spain Country submission 2025

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Objective 1 - Antigypsyism and discrimination							
Spontaneous discrimination rate (%)	43	2020	30	2026	30.3	2024	https://igualdadynodiscriminacion.igualdad.gob.es/destacados/estudiopercepcion.htm

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Documented discrimination rate (%)	72	2020	50	2026	22	2024	https://igualdadynodiscriminacion.igualdad.gob.es/destacados/estudiopercepcion.htm
Population comfortable if their children have a romantic relationship with a Roma person (%)	65	2020	75	2026	N/A	2025	https://igualdadynodiscriminacion.igualdad.gob.es/destacados/estudiopercepcion.htm
Roma population that feels discriminated against in the educational field (%)	26	2020	15	2026	43.7	2024	https://igualdadynodiscriminacion.igualdad.gob.es/destacados/estudiopercepcion.htm
Roma population that feels discriminated against in the employment field (%)	30	2020	20	2026	10.9	2024	https://igualdadynodiscriminacion.igualdad.gob.es/destacados/estudiopercepcion.htm
Roma population that feels discriminated against in the health field (%)	16	2020	14	2026	7.9	2024	https://igualdadynodiscriminacion.igualdad.gob.es/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/ESTUDIO_El-impacto-del-racismo-en-SP_ESP_Accesible_2024.pdf
Roma population that feels discriminated against in the housing field (%)	30.8	2020	22	2026	75	2024	https://igualdadynodiscriminacion.igualdad.gob.es/destacados/estudiopercepcion.htm
Complaint after experiencing discrimination (%)	11.5	2020	25	2026	17.3	2024	https://igualdadynodiscriminacion.igualdad.gob.es/destacados/estudiopercepcion.htm
Level of unawareness among the Roma population about organizations that provide support or advice to victims of discrimination (%)	83	2020	65	2026	67	2021	FRA survey (2020). Roma in 10 European Countries. Main Results. FRA (2021).
Cases handled by the Assistance and Orientation Service for Victims of Racial or Ethnic Discrimination	316	2020	800	2026	385	2023	https://igualdadynodiscriminacion.igualdad.gob.es/destacados/estudiopercepcion.htm
Objective 2 - Poverty and social exclusion							
Specific objective 1.1. At risk of poverty rate in the Roma population (%)	85.9	2019	60	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Specific objective 1.2. Severe poverty rate (%)	65.6	2019	45	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Specific objective 1.3. Extreme poverty rate (%)	46	2019	23	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Specific objective 1.4. Severa material deprivation rate (%)	76.8	2019	60	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Specific objective 1.5. AROPE rate (%)	91.9	2019	60	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Specific objective 2.1. Child poverty rate in the Roma population (%)	89	2019	60	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Specific objective 2.2. Severe child poverty rate (%)	70.2	2019	58	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Specific objective 3.1. Unemployed Roma in receipt of unemployment benefits (Women/Men %)	32.9/24.7	2019	30 / 34	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Specific objective 3.2. Roma households in severe poverty receiving social benefits (%)	33.2	2019	60	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Specific objective 4.1. Access to digital media (%)	22.4	2021	35	2026	N/A	2025	Estudio de Brecha digital social y defensa de los derechos humanos. Plataforma de Acción Social, 2021
Specific objective 4.2. Digital skills (%)	56.6	2021	30	2026	N/A	2025	Estudio de Brecha digital social y defensa de los derechos humanos. Plataforma de Acción Social, 2021
Objective 3 - Participation							
Number of working parties' meetings among the National Roma Platform (number per year)	10	2021	3	2026	1	2025	General State Administration registries
Number of regional Roma platforms	7	2021	12	2026	8	2025	General State Administration registries
Number of youth and woman Roma NGOs represented in the National Roma Platform (youth/women)	3 / 1	2021	8/2	2026	2/2	2025	General State Administration registries
Number of youth and woman Roma NGOs represented in Regional Roma Platforms (number of women)	N/A	2021	8	2026	N/A	2025	General State Administration registries
Objective 4 - Education							
Specific Objective 1.1. School enrolment rate of Roma children between the age of four and the starting age for compulsory schooling (%boys/%girls)	98/93	2017	98/95	2026	N/A	2025	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, FRA (2017). Segunda encuesta de la Unión Europea sobre las minorías y la discriminación. La población romaní: resultados principales.
Specific Objective 1.2. School enrolment rate of Roma children in pre- school education from 0 to 3 years of age (%)	N/A	2020	BL+5 %	2026	N/A	2025	Not yet available
Specific Objective 2.1. School segregation - concentration of Roma children - It measures the school segregation and concentration of Roma population from 6 to 15 years of age at school (%)	28	2017	21	2026	N/A	2023	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, FRA (2017). Segunda encuesta de la Unión Europea sobre las minorías y la discriminación. La población romaní: resultados principales. La situación educativa del alumnado gitano en España. Fundación Secretariado Gitano 2023.
Specific Objective 3.1. Illiterate Roma adults (% women/%men)	13.8/5.6	2019	11/5	2026	N/A	2025	Fundación Secretariado Gitano (2019). Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza.
Specific Objective 4.1. Roma who feel discriminated against in the educational sphere - Roma children, young people and/or adults who have felt discriminated against in the educational sphere. (%)	26	2020	15	2026	43.7	2024	CEDRE (2020). Percepción de la discriminación por origen racial o étnico por parte de sus potenciales víctimas en 2020. Ministerio de Igualdad. CEDRE (2024). Percepción de la discriminación por origen racial o étnico por parte de sus potenciales víctimas en 2020. Ministerio de Igualdad.
Specific Objective 5.1. Early school leaving rate - Young people between 18 and 24 years of age who have not completed the second stage of Secondary Education, i.e. the A Levels or an intermediate or basic training cycle, and who have not continued their education. (%)	70	2017	50	2026	86.3	2023	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, FRA (2017). Segunda encuesta de la Unión Europea sobre las minorías y la discriminación. La población romaní: resultados principales. La situación educativa del alumnado gitano en España. Fundación Secretariado Gitano 2023.
Specific Objective 5.2. Net enrolment rate (6-14 years) (%)	89	2017	92	2026	N/A	2025	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, FRA (2017). Segunda encuesta de la Unión Europea sobre las minorías y la discriminación. La población romaní: resultados principales. La situación educativa del alumnado gitano en España. Fundación Secretariado Gitano 2023.

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Specific Objective 5.3. Early school leaving rate (%men/%women)	64/64.7	2013	50	2026	86.3	2023	% total (not disaggregated). FSG. El alumnado gitano en secundaria. Un estudio comparado 2013 La situación educativa del alumnado gitano en España. Fundación Secretariado Gitano. 2023.
Specific Objective 6.1. Average post- compulsory education attained by Roma men and women (%Roma women/%Roma men)	15.5/19.4	2019	19/22	2026	9/15.2	2023	9.0% (high school) 15.2% (Intermediate Vocational Training) FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018. La situación educativa del alumnado gitano en España. Fundación Secretariado Gitano. 2023.
Specific Objective 6.2. Higher education attained by Roma men and women (%women/%men)	2.8/4.6	2019	4/5.5	2026	4.8/1.6	2023	4.8% again (Advanced Vocational Training) 1.6% (University) FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018. La situación educativa del alumnado gitano en España. Fundación Secretariado Gitano. 2023.
Objective 5 - Employment							
Specific Objective 1.1. Employment rate (16-64 years) (%)	29.9	2019	35	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Specific Objective 1.2. Unemployment rate among Roma men and women (%women/%men)	60/47	2019	50/37	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Specific Objective 2.1. Temporary employment rate among Roma men and women (%)	76/68	2019	60/60	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Specific Objective 2.2. Roma people who feel discriminated against in the field of employment (%)	30.1	2019	20/20	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018. CEDRE (2020). Percepción de la discriminación por origen racial o étnico por parte de sus potenciales víctimas en 2020. Ministerio de Igualdad.
Specific Objective 2.3. Salary rate of Roma (%)	51.5	2019	60/60	2026.2030	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Specific Objective 3.1. Rate of young Roma who neither work nor study (16-30 years) (%)	58/42	2019	50/33	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Specific Objective 4.1. Activity rate of Roma women (%)	38.5	2019	40/40	2026	N/A	2025	FSG, 2019. Estudio comparado sobre la situación de la población gitana en España con relación al empleo y la pobreza 2018.
Objective 6 - Health							
Perception of the Roma population of their health status as "good" or "very good" (%men/%women)	65.6/55.6	2014	69/63	2026	N/A	2025	Encuesta Nacional de Salud de la Población Gitana (2014)
Health status of the child as perceived by the adult informant, referred to as good" or "very good" health status (%)	N/A	0	90	2026	N/A	2025	Not yet available (baseline and current data)
Gap with the general population (on health perception) (%men/%women)	77.8/70.4	2014	15/25	2026	N/A	2025	Encuesta Nacional de Salud de la Población Gitana (2014)
Perception of discrimination in the healthcare sector among the Roma population (%)	16	2020	16	2026	N/A	2025	CEDRE (2020). Percepción de la discriminación por origen racial o étnico por parte de sus potenciales víctimas en 2020. Ministerio de Igualdad.

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Objective 7 - Housing							
Shanty towns rate (%)	2.17	2016	1	2026	N/A	2025	Study Map on Housing and Roma Population 2015
Housing deprivation rate (%)	6.46	2016	4.5	2026	N/A	2025	Study Map on Housing and Roma Population 2015
Segregated housing rate (%)	2.9	2016	1.9	2026	N/A	2025	Study Map on Housing and Roma Population 2015
Percentage of Roma households without potable water (%)	4.2	2016	2.1	2026	N/A	2025	Study Map on Housing and Roma Population 2015
Roma households without access to energy (%)	5.2	2016	2.1	2026	N/A	2025	Study Map on Housing and Roma Population 2015
Roma households without heating (%)	27.59	2016	38	2026	N/A	2025	Study Map on Housing and Roma Population 2015
Overcrowding rate (%)	8.9	2016	6	2026	N/A	2025	Study Map on Housing and Roma Population 2015
Roma households in poor or bad conditions (%)	66.2	2016	50	2026	N/A	2025	Study Map on Housing and Roma Population 2015
Percentage of neighbourhoods without garbage collection services (%)	1.7	2016	1	2026	N/A	2025	Study Map on Housing and Roma Population 2015
To reduce the perceived discrimination rate by the Romani population in the housing sector from 30.8% to 25% in 2026 and 15% in 2030 (%)	30.8	2020	25	2026	N/A	2025	CEDRE (2020). Percepción de la discriminación por origen racial o étnico por parte de sus potenciales víctimas en 2020. Ministerio de Igualdad

Romania Country submission 2025

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Objective 1 - Antigypsyism and discrimination							
Number of working meetings organized	-	2022	6	2027	1	2025	Ministry of Internal Affairs - IGPR
No. of reports elaborated	-	2022	6	2027	1	2025	Ministry of Internal Affairs - IGPR
No. of monitoring reports	-	2022	6	2027	1	2025	Ministry of Internal Affairs - IGPR
No. of Information and awareness campaigns carried out	-	2022	6	2027	2	2025	Ministry of Internal Affairs - IGPR
Number of reports elaborated/published (as a result of the campaigns)	-	2022	6	2027	2	2025	Ministry of Internal Affairs - IGPR
No. of debates organized to analyze the deterrent nature of existing sanctions	-	2022	6	2027	1	2025	Ministry of Internal Affairs - IGPR
Number of reports developed/published	-	2022	6	2027	1	2025	Ministry of Internal Affairs - IGPR
No. of trainings organized for agents and magistrates	-	2022	18	2027	161	2025	Ministry of Internal Affairs - DGMRU, IGPR, IGJR and APAIC

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
No. of participants attending the trainings	-	2022	1170	2027	16084	2025	Ministry of Internal Affairs - DGMRU, IGPR, IGJR and APAIC
Number of training hours and type of support materials used for training	-	2022	1800	2027	2775	2025	Ministry of Internal Affairs - DGMRU, IGPR, IGJR and APAIC
DIR -Number of training courses delivered	0	2023	4	2027	1	2025	Department of Interethnic Relations
Objective 2 - Poverty and social exclusion							
N/A							
Objective 3 - Participation							
N/A							
Objective 4 - Education							
No. of students enrolled in post-secondary schools: Target - no. of places allocated for enrolment of students in post-secondary schools	-	2022	-	2027	192	2025	MIA - DGMRU
No. of students enrolled at the university	-	2022	-	2027	35	2025	MIA - DGMRU
At least 80 000 Roma students annually in remedial education programmes.	-	2022	400000	2027	114000	2025	Ministry of Education
20 mediators trained and 10 hired annually	-	2022	100/50	2027	133/464	2025	Ministry of Education
300 annual actions with Roma parents	-	2022	1500	2027	1323	2025	Ministry of Education
1 000 Roma youth in vocational/dual education	-	2022	-	2027	6072/683	2025	Ministry of Education
500 Roma children annually in nurseries/kindergartens	-	2022	2500	2027	1287	2025	Ministry of Education
15 000 Roma students in extracurricular diversity activities	-	2022	75000	2027	47685	2025	Ministry of Education
50 teachers trained annually in intercultural education	-	2022	250	2027	3080	2025	Ministry of Education
Biannual update of data on Roma student participation	-	2022	-	2027	114071	2025	Ministry of Education
3 Roma school inspector posts filled annually	-	2022	15	2027	12/19	2025	Ministry of Education
100 teachers trained annually to teach Romani language and Roma history	-	2022	500	2027	41	2025	Ministry of Education
No. of teachers trained and evaluated	-	2022	-	2027	56	2025	DIR
No. of teachers and auxiliary personnel trained	-	2022	-	2027	40	2025	DIR
No. of teachers trained	1	2022	-	2027	88	2025	DIR
Objective 5 - Employment							
1.3 Number of vulnerable Roma communities/Roma individuals informed about the National Interest Program on employment	140	2023	-	2027	145	2025	Report on the status of the implementation of the Employment and Professional Training Program
2.1 Number of Roma graduates and young people registered with the ANOFM who conclude an internship and/or apprenticeship contract," of which women"	450/60	2022	-	2027	1707/934	2025	Report on the status of the implementation of the Employment and Professional Training Program
2.1.1 Number of people from disadvantaged backgrounds employed after graduating from a vocational training program organized by ANOFM," of whom women"	300/75	2022	-	2027	47/25	2025	Report on the status of the implementation of the Employment and Professional Training Program
2.1.1 Number of young NEETs who have been integrated/reintegrated into the labour market or into various forms of education," including women"	360/93	2022	-	2027	1401/524	2025	Report on the status of the implementation of the Employment and Professional Training Program
2.1.1 Number of young Roma integrated into the labour market following the implementation of specific GT programs," of which women"	360/93	2022	-	2027	1401/524	2025	Report on the status of the implementation of the Employment and Professional Training Program

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
2.1.2 Number of Roma people included in employment stimulation measures	36000	2022	-	2027	19485	2025	Report on the status of the implementation of the Employment and Professional Training Program
2.1.2 Number of Roma people employed as a result of inclusion in employment stimulation measures	8790	2022	-	2027	5334	2025	Report on the status of the implementation of the Employment and Professional Training Program
2.1.3 Number of young Roma people at risk of social marginalization who have signed a social solidarity contract	75	2022	-	2027	5	2025	Report on the status of the implementation of the Employment and Professional Training Program
Objective 6 - Health							
No. of Romanian citizens belonging to the Roma minority who benefit from primary healthcare services	-	2022	-	2027	996/4938	2025	Ministry of Health
No. of vulnerable population per community healthcare provider	-	2022	-	2027	2759640	2025	Ministry of Health
No. of Integrated Community centres providing basic integrated medical-social services extended at national level	-	2022	-	2027	200	2025	Ministry of Health
No. of community nurses and health mediators employed	-	2022	-	2027	1947/467	2025	Ministry of Health
No. of programs/interventions implemented (Developing training programs for healthcare professionals)	-	2022	-	2027	1	2025	Ministry of Health
Objective 7 - Housing							
Number of social housing units benefiting members of Roma communities	-	2022	300	2027	239	2025	Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration
No. reporting on investments to local projects for connecting to utilities and providing drinking water, which will also benefit members of vulnerable Roma communities	-	2022	2938	2027	1466	2025	Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration

Slovakia Country submission 2025

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Objective 1 - Antigypsyism and discrimination							
Share of Roma (men and women) who felt discriminated against based on their ethnic origin in the last 12 months but did not report their discrimination to the relevant institution (%)	97	2020	80	2030	95%	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Share of Roma women who felt discriminated against based on their ethnic origin or gender in the last 12 months but did not report their discrimination to the relevant institution (%)	97	2020	80	2030	96%	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Number of complaints submitted by Roma to the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights (SNCHR) concerning violations of the anti-discrimination law based on their ethnicity.	19	2020	75	2030	33	2024	Slovak National Centre for Human Rights (SNCHR)

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Share of complaints received by administrative authorities concerning violations of the Anti-Discrimination Act based on ethnicity which were investigated and evaluated in favour of the injured party (%)	8	2020	16	2030	20%	2024	Slovak National Centre for Human Rights (SNCHR), Slovak Trade Inspection
Number of temporary compensatory measures taken and registered by the SNCHR	2	2020	10	2030	5	2024	Slovak National Centre for Human Rights (SNCHR)
Number of cases of ill-treatment and other cases of violation of the law by police forces including complaints suspected of racial motives.	N/A	2020	0	2030	38	2024	Public Defender of Rights
Number of sectoral strategies (or comparable key documents for public policymaking in the sector) that contain and explicitly take into account the fight against anti-Roma racism including discrimination.	2	2020	10	2030	2	2024	NRCP
Number of textbooks used in the educational process containing information about the Roma minority its history culture and participation in public life in society.	10	2020	12	2030	20	2024	National Institute of Education and Youth
Share of young people (aged 16-30) who would not want a Roma as a neighbour (%)	N/A	2020	N/A	2030	66	2025	NRCP survey
Objective 2 - Poverty and social exclusion							
N/A							
Objective 3 - Participation							
Number of senior government officials (ministers; state secretaries; general directors of ministerial sections and heads of state institutions); identifying themselves as Roma."	7	2021	20	2030	13	2024	NRCP
Number of Roma and pro-Roma civil society organizations working in the field of combating anti-Roma racism and discrimination; supported by public funds (outcome indicator related to activities in the Strategy)	0	2021	15	2030	0	2024	Monitoring report of the Strategy
Number of Roma and pro-Roma civil society organizations that participated (by proposals; authorship; co-authorship) in the creation of departmental National policies with an impact on Roma inclusion.	5	2021	20	2030	3	2024	Monitoring report of the Strategy
Number of activities aimed at capacity building and education of members of nonprofit Roma and pro-Roma organizations.	8	2021	27	2030	15	2024	NRCP
Objective 4 - Education							
Enrolment rate of children from marginalised Roma communities (MRC) aged 5-6 in compulsory pre-primary education (%)	46	2020	98	2030	76	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Enrolment rate of children from MRC aged 3-4 years in pre- primary education (%)	24	2020	55	2030	30	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Average academic achievements of MRC students in mathematics in the 9th year of elementary school (The success rate of pupils from socially disadvantaged backgrounds relative to the success rate of other pupils)	38	2019	70	2030	36	2024	NUCEM
Average academic achievements of MRC students in Slovak language and literature in the 9th year of elementary school (The success rate of pupils from socially disadvantaged backgrounds relative to the success rate of other pupils)	46	2019	75	2030	41	2024	NUCEM
Average academic achievements of MRC students in Hungarian language and literature in the 9th year of elementary school (The success rate of pupils from socially disadvantaged backgrounds relative to the success rate of other pupils)	62	2019	85	2030	56	2024	NUCEM
Share of pupils from the MRC in primary schools who repeat a grade (%)	6	2019	2	2030	4	2024	CVTI, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of MRC students continuing their education in so called F-programmes (2 years of lower secondary vocational education) (%)	18	2020	5	2030	16	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Average absences per year by primary school pupils from the MRC compared to other pupils (proportion of the average value of the number of absences of primary school pupils from the MRC out of the average value of the number of absences of pupils from other schools)	152	2019	120	2030	151	2024	CVTI, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Number of children from MRC in pre- schools per number of teaching assistants, professional and auxiliary staff compared to pre-schools without children from MRC	110/1	2020	50/1	2030	77/1	2024	CVTI, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of staff proficient in the Roma language in pre-schools with children from the MRC (%)	6	2021	12	2030	8	2025	NRCP survey
Number of pupils from the MRC in primary schools per number of teaching assistants, professional and auxiliary staff compared to primary schools without pupils from the MRC	40/1	2020	30/1	2030	29/1	2024	CVTI, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of staff proficient in the Roma language in primary schools with children from the MRK (%)	2	2021	10	2030	3	2025	NRCP survey, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of municipalities with the presence of the MRC with a lack of capacity to provide pre- primary education in the total number of municipalities with the presence of the MRC (%)	72	2020	N/A	2030	56	2025	CVTI, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of missing capacities of pre-schools to ensure 100% enrolment of 5–6 year old children from the MRC in the total number of 5-6 year old children from the MRC (%)	N/A	2020	N/A	2030	17	2025	CVTI, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of primary schools with double-shift operation with the presence of pupils from the MRC in the total number of primary schools with the presence of the MRC (%)	6.3	2020	2	2030	4.8	2024	CVTI, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Number of lacking capacities to ensure one- shift school operation in primary schools with two-shift operation with the presence of pupils from the MRC	3794	2020	1200	2030	4731	2024	CVTI, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Number of primary schools involved in desegregation projects in Slovak education	0	2021	N/A	2030	13	2025	Monitoring report of the Strategy
Share of allocated workplaces of secondary schools with "F"- programmes located in segregated settlements with MRC (%)	51	2020	10	2030	42	2025	CVTI, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of pupils with mild intellectual disabilities educated in special primary schools (%)	67	2020	40	2030	64	2024	CVTI, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of Roma children aged 6 - 15 attending a class where all their classmates are Roma (%)	44	2020	N/A	2030	37	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Share of primary schools and preschools involved in inclusive education programmes out of the total number of primary schools and preschools (%)	28	2020	40	2030	41	2024	Ministry of Education
Number of inclusive teams in primary schools and preschools with the presence of pupils from the MRC	N/A	2020	N/A	2030	623	2024	Ministry of Education
Number of supported educational and scientific research activities in the field of Roma language development, art and culture lasting at least 2 years	0	2021	N/A	2030	0	2024	Fund for the Promotion of National Minority Culture
Number of supported cultural events and activities presenting the culture and art of the Roma national minority in Slovakia, implemented repeatedly (at least 2 times)	77	2020	N/A	2030	125	2024	Fund for the Promotion of National Minority Culture
Share of Roma nationality broadcasting in the nationality broadcasting of public service media (%)	5	2020	10	2030	5	2024	Slovak Television and Radio
Number of non- governmental non-profit organizations implementing projects aimed at the development of the language, art, media and culture of the Roma national minority in Slovakia	187	2020	250	2030	262	2024	Fund for the Promotion of National Minority Culture
Existence of a strategic document prepared in a participatory manner that defines the preservation, development and institutional background of Roma culture and language, including research in the given area	0	2021	1	2030	1	2024	Ministry of Culture
Objective 5 - Employment							
Share of pupils (men and women) who do not continue in further education and have found employment within 6 months of leaving school (%)	28	2019	34	2030	27	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of pupils (women) who do not continue in further education and have found employment within 6 months of leaving school. (%)	25	2019	31	2030	26	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of long-term unemployed jobseekers (men and women from the MRC) enrolled in education and training programmes for the labour market who found a job within 6 months of completing requalification (%)	16.5	2019	23	2030	32	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Share of long-term unemployed jobseekers (women from the MRC) enrolled in education and training programmes for the labour market who found a job within 6 months of completing requalification (%)	16	2019	25	2030	32	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of long-term unemployed jobseekers (men and women from the MRC) who have been placed on the open labour market (not including jobs created with financial support under the Employment Services Act through the Labour, Social Affairs and Family Offices) (%)	29	2019	35	2030	39	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of long-term unemployed jobseekers (women from the MRC) who have been placed on the open labour market (not including jobs created with financial support under the Employment Services Act through the Labour, Social Affairs and Family Offices) (%)	29	2019	35	2030	38	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of persons (men and women from the MRC) whose entitlement to the provision of assistance in material need ceased due to successful placement on the labour market for at least 3 months, out of the total number of beneficiaries of assistance in material need (men and women from the MRC) (%)	4	2019	7	2030	1.2	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of persons (women from the MRC) whose entitlement to the provision of assistance in material need ceased due to successful placement on the labour market for at least 3 months, out of the total number of beneficiaries of assistance in material need (women from the MRC) (%)	4	2019	7	2030	1.2	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of jobseekers (men and women from the MRC) with primary or lower education who have been placed on the labour market through active labour market measures out of the total number of registered jobseekers (men and women from the MRC) with primary or lower education (%)	9	2019	12	2030	4.3	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of jobseekers (women from the MRC) with primary or lower education who have been placed on the labour market through active labour market measures out of the total number of registered jobseekers (women from the MRC) with primary or lower education (%)	9	2019	12	2030	3.7	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of MRC households that have been freed from debt or exempted from execution (%)	13	2020	30	2030	16	2024	NRCP + Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family
Number of persons from the MRC employed in social economy enterprises, disaggregated by gender	1126	2020	6000	2030	10119	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Number of employees from the MRC in social enterprises who are employed on the open labour market, disaggregated by gender	4	2020	150	2030	33	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Number of employees from the MRC in social enterprises who were employed on the open labour market and stayed in their jobs for more than 3 months, disaggregated by gender	4	2020	150	2030	29	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Number of persons from the MRC employed by applying the social aspect in public procurement, disaggregated by gender	423	2020	600	2030	773	2024	NRCP
Number of people from the MRC who started a entrepreneurship with public financial support, disaggregated by gender	1536	2020	5800	2030	2952	2024	Central office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Share of Roma who felt discriminated against in employment or experienced other forms of racism in the workplace because of their ethnicity (%)	11	2020	5	2030	15	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Share of Roma women who felt discriminated against because of their ethnicity or gender when looking for a job in the last 12 months (%)	28	2020	13	2030	29	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Employment income gap between men and women from the MRC	13	2020	6	2030	14	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Objective 6 - Health							
Existence of a system for collecting, monitoring and regularly evaluating data on health disparities between the MRC and the general population	No	2020	Yes	2030	Ongoing	2024	Monitoring reports of the Strategy - Institute of Health Analyses
Share of municipalities with the presence of MRC in which programmes aimed at preventing communicable and non-communicable diseases and increasing health literacy are implemented (%)	32.5	2020	32.5	2030	32	2024	Annual Monitoring Reports of NP Healthy Communities
Vaccination rate of the MRC child population (in selected districts) in compulsory vaccinations against infectious diseases - Pneumococcal vaccine (%)	96.3	2019	HIT	2030	92.4	2024	Public Health Authority, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Vaccination rate of the MRC child population (in selected districts) in compulsory vaccinations against infectious diseases - HEXA (%)	96.2	2019	HIT	2030	92.3	2024	Public Health Authority, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Vaccination rate of the MRC child population (in selected districts) in compulsory vaccinations against infectious diseases - MMR (%)	97	2019	HIT	2030	91.9	2024	Public Health Authority, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Number of selected infectious diseases reported in the MRC in selected districts - hepatitis A	324	2019	decrease	2030	347	2024	Public Health Authority, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Number of selected infectious diseases reported in the MRC in selected districts - hepatitis B	29	2019	decrease	2030	2	2024	Public Health Authority, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Number of selected infectious diseases reported in the MRC in selected districts - hepatitis E	22	2019	decrease	2030	7	2024	Public Health Authority, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Number of selected infectious diseases reported in the MRC in selected districts - bacterial meningitis	37	2019	decrease	2030	93	2024	Public Health Authority, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Number of selected infectious diseases reported in the MRC in selected districts - measles	549	2019	decrease	2030	0	2024	Public Health Authority, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Number of selected infectious diseases reported in the MRC in selected districts - scabies	1276	2019	decrease	2030	572	2024	Public Health Authority, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Number of selected infectious diseases reported in the MRC in selected districts - syphilis	362	2019	decrease	2030	173	2024	Public Health Authority, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
Number of selected infectious diseases reported in the MRC in selected districts - tuberculosis	25	2019	decrease	2030	N/A	2024	Public Health Authority, Atlas of Roma Communities 2019
Number of health workers who have received training aimed at improving skills and acquiring competences in relation to patients from the MRC	0	2020	225	2030	206	2024	Monitoring reports of the Strategy - Ministry of Health
Share of hospitals with staff providing health mediation specifically for patients from marginalized Roma communities (MRC) out of the total number of hospitals (%)	30	2020	N/A	2030	43	2024	Healthy Regions / Ministry of Health
Share of Roma women who felt discriminated against on the basis of their ethnicity when receiving healthcare services in the past 12 months (%)	9	2020	5	2030	12	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Share of Roma men and women who, during the past 12 months, needed medical examination or treatment but did not receive it due to selected reasons (discrimination, financial reasons, waiting lists, or geographic inaccessibility) (%)	M:2, F:2	2020	1	2030	3	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Objective 7 - Housing							
Share of legal dwellings (i.e., residents have a legal title to use the dwelling) out of the total number of dwellings in settlements with MRC (%)	54	2020	66	2030	70	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Share of individuals from MRC without their own connection to a drinking water source (%)	28	2020	15	2030	20	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Share of MRC households with internet access (%)	44	2020	N/A	2030	70	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Share of households from MRC equipped with a personal computer (%)	22	2020	N/A	2030	36	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Share of individuals from MRC living in households that do not meet the minimum number of rooms according to Eurostat's definition of household overcrowding (%)	88	2020	66	2030	76	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Share of individuals from MRC living in households without a toilet, shower, or bathtub inside the dwelling (%)	35	2020	17	2030	24	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Share of individuals from MRC living in inadequate housing (%)	60	2020	46	2030	49	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Share of households from MRC that have self-improved the quality of their previously inadequate housing through publicly funded programs, resulting in improved housing quality standards (%)	0	2021	210	2030	0	2024	intermediate body
Number of households from MRC that have moved from inadequate housing to their own housing through publicly funded programs	0	2021	N/A	2030	21	2024	intermediate body
Share of households from MRC experiencing energy poverty (%)	50	2021	maintain	2030	49	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Share of Roma who lost their housing due to forced evictions by cities, municipalities, or organizations, without being provided with alternative housing (%)	N/A	2021	N/A	2030	0	2024	NRCP
Share of Roma children who lost their housing due to forced evictions from their dwellings without being provided with alternative housing in the given	N/A	2021	N/A	2030	0	2024	NRCP

Objective / Monitoring indicator	*Baseline value*	*Baseline year*	*Target value*	*Target year*	*Current value*	*Current year*	*Source*
year (%)							
Share of Roma households that do not receive housing allowances despite being in material need (%)	61	2020	49	2030	49	2024	EU SILC-MRC 2024
Number of households that moved from segregated Roma localities to integrated environments through publicly funded programs	0	2021	300	2030	208	2024	intermediate body