

HUNGARY

National Strategy	National Social Inclusion Strategy 2011-2020: Extreme poverty, child poverty, Roma (December 2011) Updated National Social Inclusion Strategy (December 2014) http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma-integration/hungary/national-strategy/national_en.htm
Roma population	Council of Europe Estimate: Approximately 750 000 (data from 2012) i.e. 7.49 % of the population
National Roma Contact Point (NRCP)	Minister of State for Social Inclusion and Social Affairs, Ministry of Human Capacities
Country-specific recommendations (CSR) under the European semester:	<p>2015: "Increase the participation of disadvantaged groups in particular Roma in inclusive mainstream education, and improve the support offered to these groups through targeted teacher training; strengthen measures to facilitate the transition between different stages of education and to the labour market, and improve the teaching of essential competences."</p> <p>2014: "In order to alleviate poverty, implement streamlined and integrated policy measures to reduce poverty significantly, particularly among children and Roma." "Put in place a systematic approach to promote inclusive mainstream education for disadvantaged groups, in particular Roma. Support the transition between different stages of education and towards the labour market, and closely monitor the implementation of the vocational training reform. Implement a higher-education reform that enables greater tertiary attainment, particularly by disadvantaged students."</p> <p>2013: "Ensure that the objective of the National Social Inclusion Strategy is mainstreamed in all policy fields in order to reduce poverty, particularly among children and Roma." "Improve access to inclusive mainstream education, for those with disadvantages, in particular for Roma. Support the transition between different stages of education and towards the labour market. Implement a higher-education reform that enables greater tertiary attainment, particularly by disadvantaged students."</p> <p>2012: "Implement the National Roma Integration Strategy, and mainstream it with other policies."</p>

Planned approach to fund Roma integration in the 2014-2020 period	
KEY ELEMENTS	GAPS TO BE ADDRESSED
<p>Four of the Hungarian multi-fund Operational Programmes (OP) (Human Resource Development, Economic Development and Innovation, Territorial and Settlement Development, and Competitive Central Hungary OPs) as well as the Rural Development Programme mainstream Roma inclusion combining soft (ESF) and hard (ERDF) measures under investment priorities such as active inclusion, access to quality health and public services, access to employment, social entrepreneurship, access to quality education and physical rehabilitation of deprived urban and rural communities.</p> <p>Two OPs selected the investment priority "socio-economic integration of marginalized communities such as Roma" (Human Resource Development and Competitive Central Hungary OPs).</p> <p>Territorial targeting is planned to be used to address the specific needs of areas most affected by poverty or target groups at highest risk of discrimination or social exclusion, using integrated methodology, combining a wide range of interventions and promising inclusive planning and implementation. Integrated approaches will be used in several OPs.</p>	<p>More systemic measures to make mainstream education, employment, social policies more inclusive could be better exploited in line with relevant CSRs. The impact on Roma of mainstream measures is also to be monitored.</p> <p>Delay in setting up the implementation framework of the targeted programme for the least developed micro-regions hinders the territorially targeted, complex support schemes.</p>

Cooperation and coordination: local authorities, civil society, NRCP involvement	
KEY ELEMENTS	GAPS TO BE ADDRESSED
<p>Local governments may only obtain support awarded by tender from national or EU funds if they have adopted a local equal opportunity plan. District social inclusion roundtables aim to ensure an overview of local equal opportunity plans and coordinate measures.</p> <p>Members of Roma municipalities have received training by county government offices.</p> <p>Consultative bodies are in place to oversee the implementation of the strategy. Roma representation takes place through the national Roma self-government.</p> <p>The NRCP is involved in sectoral coordination and planning the use of EU funds.</p>	<p>For local authorities to play a bigger role in the implementation of the National Social Inclusion Strategy it is necessary to ensure the effective implementation, funding and monitoring of local equal opportunity programs, and to ensure a more structured provision of information to and coordinated involvement of local authorities, a more systematic promotion of good practice exchange.</p> <p>Transparency of the work of consultative bodies and inclusive involvement of broader civil society remain to be ensured.</p> <p>Consultation on the revised National Social Inclusion Strategy was lacking.</p> <p>Formal coordination structures need to be turned into effective cooperation mechanisms with full involvement of all stakeholders.</p>

Stepping up efforts to fight against discrimination	
KEY ELEMENTS	GAPS TO BE ADDRESSED
<p>The 2014-2020 OPs contain plans for antidiscrimination measures.</p> <p>Centralisation of education could contribute to desegregation. County public education development plans offer a possibility to promote inclusive mainstream education at local and institutional level. Targeted programmes planned with EU funds (e.g. Roma collages, "Tanoda") promote Roma participation and attainment in education.</p> <p>Cities have to develop integrated settlement development strategies with desegregation plans. The complex settlement program has important desegregation elements.</p> <p>Increasing focus on gender issues in the updated strategy including programme for training and employment of Roma women.</p>	<p>No systematic activities to combat discrimination in all policy fields.</p> <p>Steps to ensure inclusive mainstream education are to be taken. Modification of public education act raises concerns on opening door to legalising segregated educational practice.</p> <p>Implementation and monitoring of local desegregation plans need to be ensured.</p> <p>Local authorities are in need of capacity building support and mentoring.</p> <p>Controversial relocation/eviction of Roma families in some municipalities should be prevented.</p>

Developing better monitoring and enabling policy adjustment	
KEY ELEMENTS	GAPS TO BE ADDRESSED
<p>Program monitoring system planned to follow implementation of measures in the Action Plan.</p> <p>Social inclusion indicator system to monitor societal changes supported by regular research.</p> <p>Inclusion of questions on ethnicity in large-scale standard surveys.</p> <p>Technical assistance project to establish good practice methodology and database.</p> <p>Involvement of the NRCP and the Statistical Office in the Working Party on Roma integration indicators coordinated by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency.</p> <p>Monitoring includes ERDF and ESF monitoring and audits.</p>	<p>Link between program monitoring and monitoring of societal changes could be developed.</p> <p>It should be clarified how the outcomes of the monitoring system will be channelled into policy design. Monitoring system should ensure that lessons learnt lead to policy review.</p> <p>NGOs and other stakeholders are not involved in the monitoring.</p>

Example of approaches by the Member State:

In its efforts to meet the NRCP's needs for information for monitoring progress in social inclusion, the Hungarian Central Statistical Office included questions on ethnicity in large sample surveys. The method was tested during the 2011 population census. The Labour Force Survey covers 68,000 people aged 15-74 years in 38,000 households and uses two questions on ethnicity in order to measure dual ethnic identity. The sample covered 3700 Roma people between first quarter of 2013 and second quarter of 2014. The European Health Interview survey conducted in 2014 used the same method. In 2014 ethnicity was also included in EU-SILC (EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions) covering 20,000 people aged 16 years or more in 10,000 households. The information will make it possible to calculate the core outcome indicators for monitoring the implementation of the national social inclusion strategy on Roma inclusion.