



European
Commission



The European Union and Roma – Factsheet Finland

<http://ec.europa.eu/justice/roma-integration/finland/>

4 April 2014

1. Key Information

Roma population	
Estimate in National Roma Integration Strategy	Approximately 10 000 - 12 000
Council of Europe Estimate	Approximately 11 000 (data from 2012) i.e. 0.21 % of the population

National Strategy	http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma-integration/finland/national-strategy/national_en.htm
Funding	http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma-integration/finland/index_en.htm

2. National Roma Integration – 2014 review

	Key steps taken since 2011	Identified Gaps
Education	<p>Compulsory pre-primary education for all children starting from 2015.</p> <p>Within ten years, participation of Roma children in pre-primary school increased from 2% to 60%.</p> <p>Pilot projects providing teacher training and involvement of Roma professionals.</p> <p>Support for transition between schools and labour market.</p> <p>Annual €75 000 funding for the “Romani language nest”.</p> <p>Teaching of Romani language and culture at Helsinki University and possible graduation as certified Romani language teachers.</p>	<p>Possible employment of Roma school assistants and/or Romani language teachers.</p> <p>Assessment of the impact of the pilot projects.</p>

Employment	<p>Measures aimed at increasing the employability of disadvantaged groups, including Roma.</p> <p>15 projects related to Roma integration: e.g. “UusiTaito” on training Roma employment mediators and Kaleet kouluun! for creating a model for employment and education of Roma.</p> <p>National funded projects promoting Roma employment (e.g. Tempo). Training and employment of Roma professionals in employment services.</p>	<p>The impact of these measures now needs to be monitored.</p> <p>Discriminatory practices in the public employment scheme need to be monitored.</p>
Health	<p>Research into the health situation of Roma conducted by the National Institute for Health and Welfare.</p>	<p>Draw conclusions from the research project and assess the impact of measures.</p>
Housing	<p>Roma population lives largely in similar housing standards to the rest of the Finnish population.</p> <p>Living conditions of Roma have improved through the implementation of housing policy measures.</p>	<p>Discriminatory practices in the property market need to be addressed.</p>
Anti-discrimination	<p>Study carried out in 2013 by the Ombudsman for Minorities on discrimination of Roma in employment and housing.</p> <p>The website www.romanit.fi offers information on Finnish Roma and Romani culture.</p>	<p>Ensure enforcement of anti-discrimination laws.</p> <p>Develop tools to enable Roma empowerment.</p>
Funding	<p>Roma inclusion has been supported by national and EU funds.</p> <p>During the 2007-2013 financial period, Finland has allocated 13.6 % (~€ 84.2 million) of its total European Social Fund (ESF) budget to integrating disadvantaged people.</p>	<p>Consider further use of EU funds to support Roma inclusion.</p> <p>Finland should allocate at least 20% of its total ESF to fighting social exclusion and poverty</p>
Priorities for the future (Commission recommendation)	<p>Assessing the impact of the measures is now necessary.</p>	

3. Contacts

Contact Points	
National Roma Contact Point	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health Department for Promotion of Welfare and Health http://www.stm.fi/en/frontpage
Managing Authorities for ESF (European Social Fund) funded projects	Ministry of Employment and the Economy Työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö Tel.: +358 10 60 6000 http://www.rakennerahastot.fi/rakennerahastot/en/index.jsp
Managing Authorities for ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) funded projects	http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/manage/authority/authorities.cfm?lan=EN&pay=fi
Fundamental Rights Agency Country Report:	http://fra.europa.eu/en/country-data/2013/country-thematic-studies-situation-roma

4. Promising practices

European Social Fund widely used for Roma inclusion

TEMPO – multicultural labour market project funded by ESF

In Finland, various education models that take into account the Roma population have been developed in projects co-funded by the European Social Fund. In 2008, a three-year project, 'TEMPO', run by the Finnish Deacon Institute, was initiated to provide support to staff in local employment offices in supporting the employment of Roma and immigrants. Overall, 15 projects funded by the European Social Fund related to Roma integration were launched, such as 'UusiTaito' to train Roma employment mediators and 'Kaleet kouluun!' for creating a model for employment and education of Roma.

<https://www.hdo.fi/paattyneet-projektit/139-tempo-monikulttuurinen-tyoellistaemisprojekti>

https://www.hdo.fi/images/stories/projektit/Tempo-projektin_Loppuseminaari_23_11_2012.pdf

Romani Cultural Instructors Examination

The former mediator training has been transformed into a vocational qualification for Romani Culture Instructors, since competence based examinations are professionally recognised within Finland's educational structures.

http://www.oph.fi/download/148896_Romanikulttuurin_ohjaajan_ammattitutkinto_1_5_2013.pdf

Administration of Roma Affairs in Finland

Finland has developed a national administrative model "Advisory Boards" for Roma affairs at all levels of government from local municipality and provincial governments to ministerial level, including the National Board of Education and Helsinki University.

<http://www.stm.fi/stm/neuvottelukunnat/ronk/etusivu>