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**NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF MEASURES FOR ROMA OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
FOR THE PERIOD
2017–2021**

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I. NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF MEASURES FOR ROMA OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA FOR THE PERIOD 2017–2021

1. PROBLEM

In politics, particularly at the European Union (EU) level, the Roma community members have been treated under social rights and the area of non-discrimination, and individual EU member States, including Slovenia, also provide political and cultural rights, which they have as a minority community. Despite this, the concept has not been clearly and unambiguously designed, as the social rights and the rights of minorities constantly intertwine and overlap, and both the majority population as well as the Roma community members often misinterpret them. Social exclusion¹ (or marginalisation) is a concept used in many parts of the world to denote modern forms of social disadvantage and relegation to the fringe of society. Social exclusion means that the social environment does not accept individuals or groups of people. It may be connected to a person's race, ethnic origin, language, culture, religion, sex, age, social class, economic or health condition. Social exclusion takes away a person's fundamental rights and is bound with poverty, disadvantage and most often lack of tolerance from the majority population. This concept is defined by the EU as exclusion from one or several dimensions of the welfare triangle consisting of the state, market and civil society. Being excluded from one of these dimensions already means exclusion and a risk for the people, but being excluded from two or all the dimensions is critical for social cohesion. Social exclusion reflects the inequality of individuals and groups of population and their participation in society. It can be related to a limited or disabled access to the social system or to lasting unemployment based on the characteristics of a group, such as ethnic origin, sexual orientation, health condition or belonging to a socially stigmatised group (e.g. former prisoners or addicts). It can occur after a longer period of material deficiency, when people slowly exclude themselves from social developments and become socially, culturally and politically isolated.

In the case of Roma community members, this isolation in some environments is also evident in space, because settlements or parts of settlements with a majority of Roma population are often physically separated from other settlements or parts of settlements where the surrounding majority population lives, and this is where the bottom of society rules. The above-mentioned situation is very serious and even though it resulted from the historic settlement of the Roma communities in Slovenia in the past and not from the policies and measures of the Republic of Slovenia, it is insoluble without effective and coordinated measures on all levels. In the context of the existing situation, the national authorities and the authorities of the self-governing local communities undertake to ensure long-term equal opportunities to these groups of the population with various measures.

There are major social differences among the Roma groups or communities in Slovenia, which are primarily based on the circumstances and the situations in which these groups of population live as well as on their cultural practices and acceptance in the local environment which most often still present stereotypes and prejudices. On average, the socio-economic situation of the Roma population is better in Prekmurje than in Dolenjska, Posavje and Bela krajina and other environments where they live. There are also significant differences in the socio-economic situation, lifestyle, education, employment, religious affiliation, customs and habits between the so called non-traditionally settled members of the Roma community, who live in larger towns (Ljubljana, Maribor, Celje, Velenje and Jesenice (Sinti)). The social status of the Prekmurje Roma population mostly enables them to regularly include their children in pre-school,

¹ Social exclusion (2016). Available on: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_exclusion (15 May 2017).

primary and secondary education, and many young people continue to higher education. On average, the housing situation of the Roma population in Prekmurje is better with a better basis for the inclusion of children in the educational system and later to find employment, which is an expression of a long-standing pro-active approach of the local communities in providing the conditions for a better co-existence of people from diverse cultures residing in this area. However, prejudices and stereotypes associated with Roma can still be detected in this part of Slovenia, too². These are still very present in the Slovenian society and they are passed on from generation to generation.

Often, the situation is completely different in other parts of Slovenia, where more Roma people live in more densely populated areas (in some parts of Posavje, Dolenjska and Bela krajina). However, some of the settlements have not been provided with even the basic living goods (water, electricity, sewage) despite the adoption of the Roma Community Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*], No. 33/07) and the National Programme of Measures for Roma of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for the Period 2010–2015 (hereinafter referred to as NPUR 2010–2015), which devoted a special set of measures to this very issue. On average, the Roma population is placed in the lowest social classes, characterised by poverty. Even though there is internal stratification in the Roma community (which significantly differs by regions and in the regions by municipalities, settlements and families and therefore jumping to conclusions may lead to a distorted image of the actual situation), in most cases, the social status of the Roma population is nevertheless still markedly lower than the social status of the majority population. The unfavourable socio-economic status of the Roma community members is related to poverty, low level of education, elevated level of unemployment, inappropriate housing situation, poor health condition and prejudices and stereotypes against the Roma. These negative factors, the causes and the consequences of which are closely interrelated and intertwined, create a closed circle of exclusion, from which the Roma community members cannot escape by themselves or have major difficulties doing it. Consequently, they have no social power, they are excluded from the events, permanently marginalised and dependent on social assistance. They are not interconnected, they are fragmented by settlements and mostly disorganised or their organisation is structured in a local Roma community, which is usually limited to individual settlements; however, families from several settlements and regions can be connected. It often happens that the people who start taking more advanced norms and rules, are disabled in their own midst. When they are dealt with, they are dealt with as a problem that needs to be countered and not resolved. They are rarely actively involved in resolving problems. Poor housing situation, particularly in the south-eastern Slovenia, constant marginalisation and social patterns in individual groups or communities contribute to their dependence on financial social support.

Based on the actual situation, it can be established, that settlements or parts of settlements with Roma community members as the majority population are specific problem areas with specific and outstandingly weak social situation, for which various targeted and concerted measures and programmes are necessary to address several challenges simultaneously. These necessary measures may be related to integration, they may be advanced as well as development oriented, depending on the needs of the region (e.g. different needs in Prekmurje, in Dolenjska region, in Posavje and in Bela krajina and in large towns; in Prekmurje, for example, a few pupils or students need additional study assistance; whereas, in certain areas of Dolenjska and Posavje, they are still tackling major challenges regarding the manner of ensuring the inclusion of the Roma children in primary education). The differences do not only prevail among regions, but also among local communities within a region or even between settlements or parts of settlements in the frame of one local

² The terms which are used in this programme and written in masculine form are used as neutral for the female and male gender.

community. It is precisely for these reasons that progress in this area next to the government measures necessitates local level actions, where the key starting point would be the actual situation in each (micro) environment. Local level actions would demand especially a connected and concerted action by several institutions operating in the local environment, a strong local coordinator, inclusion of the Roma community members in the life and decision-making at the level of local communities and municipalities, etc. A successful and efficient addressing of the established challenges in the local environment thus requires the provision of a combination of all the three measures and an integrated and coordinated search for solutions both locally and nationally, whereby it is vital that the competent institutions enter this process and the performance of their tasks honestly and that they are sufficiently prepared in terms of expertise and organisation.

2. DRAFTING OF THE NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF MEASURES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA FOR ROMA FOR THE PERIOD 2017–2021

National Programme of Measures for Roma of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for the Period 2017–2021 (hereinafter: NPUR 2017–2021) resulted from the cooperation between the competent ministries and government offices and the Council of Roma community of the Republic of Slovenia as the umbrella organization of the Roma community, which was established based on the Roma Community Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*] No. 33/07). The drafting of the NPUR 2017–2021 also included other organisations of the Roma community (e.g. associations of societies and individual representatives of the Roma community), self-governing local communities and their associations and any other interested public audience. The authority competent for national minorities coordinated the NPUR 2017–2021 and the same will also coordinate any further activities related to the implementation of the NPUR 2017–2021 measures and the monitoring thereof. The inclusion of all the interested public audiences was enabled already before the preparation of the first document draft and after that also in the framework of a public hearing held between 19 January and 20 February 2017. All the active organisations of the Roma community were specifically informed of the beginning of the public hearing on the draft document as well as all the self-governing local communities with Roma population and their associations, and they were all invited to submit any comments. Based on the comments and suggestions received both before the preparation of the first draft document as well as in the framework of the public hearing, three summary reports on the responses by the competent authorities were made and they were introduced to all the interested public audiences. They are available on the website of the authority competent for national minorities. The summary reports give the responses by the competent authorities to general comments related to the draft document and concrete comments related to individual areas. There are also additional explanations by the competent authorities on the remaining activities in individual areas, which are not included in the measures of the NPUR 2017–2021, but which also contribute to the creation or improvement of the situation for a better and faster integration of the Roma community members and their activation.

Since cooperation and integration of various interested public audiences, particularly the representatives of the Roma community and the self-governing local communities and their associations, are key for efficient and effective implementation of the NPUR 2017–2021, a dialogue has been established even before the adoption of the NPUR 2017–2021 between the representatives of the government of the Republic of Slovenia or the competent government departments and the representatives of the self-governing local communities and their associations, and it will continue throughout the period of the NPUR 2017–2021.³

³ On 8 May 2017, the Secretary-General of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in cooperation with the authority competent for national minorities, hosted a meeting between the state secretaries of the ministries and government offices, majors of municipalities with the Roma population and the associations of municipalities. The meeting

The NPUR 2017–2021 is a government programme of measures which shall be responding throughout the entire period of validity through the regular monitoring of the implementation of the measures and their efficiency in practice to the needs in the environments inhabited by the Roma community members and shall be constantly adopted to the situation with the necessary changes and amendments. It is necessary to underline that this is a programming document, designed strategically and mainly operatively and it will be possible to adopt or supplement it throughout the period if necessary.

3. PURPOSE AND GOALS OF THE NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF MEASURES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA FOR ROMA FOR THE PERIOD 2017–2021

The goals of the national programme of measures in the period 2017–2021 include the preparation and the adoption of measures for the improvement of the position and for the promotion of social integration and the reduction of social exclusion of the Roma community members in all those areas, where it is estimated as necessary based on the previous experiences by the national authorities, the authorities of the self-governing local communities, the Roma community and the civil society organisations. The areas covered by the new national programme of measures were also recognised as priority areas by the Roma community. The goals of the new document in the next period shall remain the same as goals of the NPUR 2010–2015, which was adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on 18 March 2015, because the challenges remain largely the same. The implementation of the measures has shown that there is always a problem with the issues of competence⁴ (what is in the competence of the national authorities and what of the self-governing local communities), political will (in principle it is always ensured, but when this will needs to be actualised in practice, there often is none) and the provision of financial resources (warnings from municipalities that additional resources from the state budget would be required to address the challenges in this area and that these challenges should be taken into account when calculating the appropriate expenditure of municipalities). There are several reasons why there has not been any considerable progress in this area and they include very diverse legal, substantive as well as organisational constraints and challenges, which based on the experience of the previous NPUR 2010–2015 are slowly being resolved. Crucial to this are sufficient political will by the national and local authorities and the awareness and the capacity of the public servants performing their tasks in the national and local level of this area. Although the previous national programme of measures ended at the end of 2015, the competent ministries and government offices continued to implement the measures directed

has been very positively assessed, especially by the representatives of the local communities and their associations and therefore the government shall continue to use such approach and dialogue, which is necessary, throughout the NPUR 2017–2021 period.

⁴ In accordance with the Act governing local self-government, the local spatial planning is in the original jurisdiction of the municipalities; however, regardless of the clarity of the legislative provisions, the political discourse of certain municipalities (particularly in the south-eastern Slovenia and in Posavje) revolves around this being national competence, which is why the state should provide municipalities with additional resources to confront the challenges in the environment. Thus, most of the municipalities have been waiting exclusively for calls for proposals by the state (calls for proposals in balanced regional development, opened by the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology), which are intended for the co-financing of the projects for basic municipal infrastructure in areas with majority Roma population. Municipalities mostly only provide a share of own resources in their budgets (for the needs of covering VAT, which is their own contribution upon applying to a call for proposal by the Ministry). It is anticipated that any attempt to ensure more financial resources in the framework of the municipal budget would be very difficult to adopt in the municipal council. For now, there have been no examples of a municipality comprehensively regulating the issues and challenges related to the Roma community with own resources except for the Murska Sobota municipality.

at the improvement of the situation of the Roma community in 2016 and at the beginning of 2017, and these measures are relevantly included in the new national document.

We have no tangible data showing progress in the situation of the Roma community members and their improved social integration from the adoption of the NPUR 2010–2015 until today and in accordance with the constitutional system and legislative norms in the area of personal data protection these are not being collected. Despite this, there are individual legal bases, research and attempts in certain individual areas or related to certain problem issues to collect statistical data contributing to the forming of a comprehensive image on the position of the Roma community members and the level of their social integration, and all the data collected this way represent a starting point for further work. Some data has thus been collected, for example, in the field of employment or in the framework of active employment policy measures, spatial planning measures (housing situation – settlements with majority Roma population), most data on the social situation of the Roma population, which is otherwise not kept in the form of official records based on ethnic origin, is kept by the social work centres, primary schools, kindergartens and various non-governmental organizations implementing their activities in the community or on areas where this population lives.

The measures of the new national document influence different areas of social life and follow the strategic goals indicated below and these measures include especially the rising of educational levels, the decreasing of unemployment, the improvement of health care, the improvement of housing situation, the elimination of prejudice, stereotypes, the preservation of the Roma culture, language and identity and the promotion of informative and publishing activities by the Roma community.

The long-term goal of the new document remains the same as in the previous period, namely to influence with catalytic actions on a faster integration of the Roma community members in society, the strengthening and development of the community, the improvement of mutual understanding, dialogue and coexistence between the Roma community members and the majority population, dealing with issues related to different forms of discrimination, the elimination of prejudices and stereotypes and the promotion of the enforcement of human and minority rights.

The measures are oriented in the achievement of the goals in different areas of life and they are compliant with the constitutional and legislative framework of the Republic of Slovenia and, in accordance with the Slovenian situation, they are harmonised with the EU framework from 2011 and they follow the Recommendation of the Council of the EU from December 2013 where necessary.

3.1 BASIC STRATEGIC GOALS OF THE PROGRAMME OF MEASURES FOR THE PERIOD 2017–2021

With the implementation of the NPUR 2017–2021 we wish to achieve the following **strategic goals**:

1. to improve the educational structure of Roma and to improve the attendance of Roma children at pre-school institutions and to increase the number of Roma children in compulsory education and increase the integration of young people and adults in continuing educational processes in accordance with the lifelong learning principle;
2. to increase employment and to reduce unemployment of Roma, with an emphasis on the employment activation of the long-term unemployed and on removing the obstacles upon (re-)entering the labour market;;
3. to prevent and eliminate the exclusion of Roma, particularly women, children and young people, to promote various programmes of social security, namely information and advisory programmes, field work, day centres, programmes of assistance and self-help, and to strengthen the awareness by Roma of such programmes;
4. to improve the services of health care, to bring them closer to Roma and to improve their awareness on the issues relating to health and health care, particularly emphasising the health of women and children;
5. to improve the housing situation of Roma, to speed up the arrangement of settlements with majority Roma population, to provide access to public goods, such as access to water and electricity, in accordance with national legal requirements and to encourage the elimination of actual spatial segregation, resulting from the historic settlement of Roma and long-term exclusion from social life;
6. to promote preservation and development of cultural, informative and publishing activities of the Roma community and strive to preserve and develop (various forms of) the Romani language as a minority language;
7. to increase the awareness of the Roma community and the majority population on the positive effects of the integration of Roma in society and of the wealth the Roma cultures bring into the Slovenian society and the importance of non-discrimination, and to enhance the fight against anti-Roma rhetoric, hate speech and stereotypes and prejudices;
8. to reinforce the dialogue and cooperation with the local communities inhabited by the Roma and to establish an active partnership between the local and national level and the Roma community.

The priority fields of the programme and measures are determined in accordance with the strategic goals.

3.2 EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY OF THE IMPLEMENTED MEASURES

The attainment of the goals pursued **requires an integrated approach**, connecting measures in several areas to achieve maximum synergy effects of these measures. The measures are interrelated and interdependent, which is a direct response to the actual needs of the Roma community members, because a successful integration is only possible while taking concurrent action in all those areas where a large deficit and failure to achieve equal opportunities of this community have been known for several years. Thus, the measures in the arrangement of the housing situation are closely related to the measures in education, health and social security, and consequently also to measures in employment and the labour market, and all the above-mentioned areas and measures are interdependent. No long-term solutions came from adopting measures for single areas. The implementation of measures requires good coordination of various bodies and working groups from several sectors, better cooperation with the authorities of the self-governing local communities where Roma live and at the same time active involvement of the Roma community both via various organisations of the Roma community and the Roma community members in the local environment. It is the increased activation of individuals and their families in the local environment, that represents the goal of the measures on several areas, where the Roma community organisations and other non-governmental organizations can be of great assistance. Despite the above, it is necessary to stress that all the external measures and incentives for the activation of the Roma community members will be ineffective unless they are pursued by both the representatives of the Roma community (e.g. elected representatives of the Roma community in municipalities, representatives of the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia and various non-governmental organizations of the Roma community (e.g. societies and associations of societies) as well as each individual in their living environment.

By means of the NPUR 2017–2021, it is not possible to directly interfere with the community's own matters and issues and the community must, like all the other communities, tackle them alone; however, despite this, several parts (e.g. activities by the authority competent for national minorities and its calls for proposals and co-financing by the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia as an umbrella organization of the Roma community in Slovenia) try to encourage the community to activate the Roma community members and to improve their social integration in local environments. In accordance with the above, the NPUR 2017–2021 will ensure effective measures and a better work coordination in the following period by connecting competent ministries and government offices and through their cooperation, and it will ensure effective work organisation, on which the efficiency and effectiveness of the implemented measures rely heavily on. With this purpose, coordinators for monitoring the implementation of the NPUR 2017–2021 measures shall be appointed by the NPUR 2017–2021 and by a decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia. Coordinators will be provided at the level of state secretaries and their task will be to monitor the implementation of measures in the area under the competence of the authority, coordination of open issues in the work areas of individual authorities, coordination of work in relation to the implementation of measures, cooperation with other authorities and the authority competent for national minorities, which is the coordinator of the preparation and any amendments to the document as well as the monitoring of the implementation of measures referred to in the document.

To enable the monitoring of individual and collective effects of the measures, measures and indicators need to be developed, which will enable as clear and unambiguous performance measurement and evaluation of the progress as possible, and based on this, it will be possible to properly direct the measures and establish the needs for eventual additional measures or the need for amendments or even for discontinuing some measures. It is anticipated, that the measures, aimed at improving the situation of the Roma community members and the elimination of their exclusion in various areas, will have a positive effect

on the level of the risk of social exclusion⁵ in individual statistical region, and based on this, it will also be possible to monitor the success of the implementation of the measures and the effectiveness of their impact.

The monitoring indicators are listed under each measure, and with each measure, baseline and target values and the period of implementation of individual measure are stated including envisaged financial resources. If financial resources are evaluated for the implementation of each measure and foreseen in the financial perspectives of individual competent authority, this is clearly stated next to the measure (last column of each measure). In case of a regular duty or task implemented by a competent authority within other tasks, financial resources are not specifically mentioned or there is a note next to each measure explaining that the implementation of the measure has no financial implications.

The effectiveness of the implementation of the programme shall be monitored based on the indicators, listed at the end of the programme (Chapter *Expected results and achievements of NPUR 2017–2021*).

3.3 PRIORITIES AND MEASURES OF THE NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF MEASURES FOR ROMA FOR THE PERIOD 2017–2021

3.3.1 EDUCATION

Successful integration of Roma into the system of education in Slovenia is addressed by the state both with framework legislation in this area as well as with specific strategy, which comprehensively addresses Roma as a target group in this area, which needs additional incentive measures for the integration into the existing system of education. Strategic guidelines in this area are thus determined by the Strategy of the Education of the Roma Population in the Republic of Slovenia from 2004 and its updates from 2011⁶.

In the period covered by the NPUR 2017–2021, the ministry competent for education (Ministry of Education, Science and Sport) shall develop and integrate the mechanisms which will contribute to a more effective integration of Roma in pre-school education, primary and secondary school as well as forms of informal education. It is also necessary to meet the goals of ensuring the knowledge of Roma culture, history and identity and the strengthening of this thematic areas within the school system. This will ensure a holistic approach to children and young people from socially disadvantaged environments, and children and young people subject to the risk of social exclusion for various reasons, the goals being the strengthening of their role and increasing the ability in social and cultural competences.

⁵ This is one of the Europe 2020 indicators for monitoring the EU goal on poverty and social exclusion. Available on <http://www.stat.si/StatWeb/News/Index/6070> (3 May 2017).

⁶ Strategy of the Education of the Roma Population in the Republic of Slovenia (Amendment to Strategy 2004). Available on: http://www.mizs.gov.si/fileadmin/mizs.gov.si/pageuploads/podrocje/razvoj_solstva/projekti/Strategija_Romi_dopolnitev_2011.pdf (15 May 2017).

As the amended Strategy from 2011 emphasises that successful inclusion of Roma in Slovenian society cannot be entirely the responsibility of educational institutions, it also applies to the measures of the NPUR 2017–2021, that successful integration of the Roma children in Slovenian society is only possible with active and simultaneous activity and cooperation of kindergartens and schools, social work centres, adult education centres, employment services, health-care institutions, cultural centres, non-governmental organisations, the police and the commitment of the local communities in the areas populated by Roma. The key to a successful integration of Roma into the education system includes also or especially an orderly housing situation.

3.3.1.1 MEASURES IN EDUCATION

3.3.1.1.1 Goals: amendment and adjustment of strategic guidelines in the education of Roma

Explanation:

During the validity of the NPUR 2017–2021, the strategy for the successful integration of Roma in the education system will be launched. The basis for the amendments will include experience, analyses and reports on the implementation of the projects financed from the European Social Fund (ESF) from 2008 and the amendments to the examination and evaluation of the implementation of the strategy from 2011. Based on this, solutions and measures will be proposed to enable even more successful integration of the children of the Roma community members into the education system, from kindergartens to university and post-graduate education.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Renewal of the Strategy for the education of the Roma Population in the Republic of Slovenia	–Ministry of Education and Sport, – expert group within the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport for renewing the strategy	– systemic measures in the field of norms and standards – measures for early inclusion of children in the education system – introduction	– experiences, analyses and reports from the implementation of the projects financed by the ESF – findings of	– adaptation of the normative measures – implementation of projects financed by the ESF	– increase in the teachers' competences – implementation of the project Together for Knowledge (<i>Skupaj za znanje</i>)	2018	There are no financial implications.

		of Roma assistants in the public servants system – training for pedagogical workers	the evaluation study on the strategy		– Renewed Strategy for the education of the Roma Population in the Republic of Slovenia		
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3.3.1.1.2 Goal: early inclusion in the education system: the inclusion of Roma children in pre-school education in kindergartens at least two years prior to the beginning of primary school

Explanation:

The goals of the inclusion of Roma children in pre-school education in kindergartens at least two years prior to the beginning of primary school, i.e. at the age of four at the latest, include above all language learning (Slovenian as well as Romani languages) and socialisation in the educational institution which transmits experiences and patterns which enable the child to integrate into primary school. This also relates to the goal of increasing the number of the pre-school Roma children in integrated or classic kindergartens, particularly in the last year or two before entering primary school. The basic starting points of this goal are to teach the children to speak Slovenian (because of the lack of linguistic knowledge and the language is vital for successful integration into education) and to enable them to gain various social skills.

The proposed measures will also help attain other goals:

- where possible, Roma assistants will be included in pre-school education;
- greater emphasis will be placed on training on working with Roma children for educators and assistants encountering various problems: multiculturalism, multilingualism and integration in common activities, intended for Roma and non-Roma children, to connect and to integrate into the community more easily – permanent support shall be enabled while monitoring the transfer of knowledge to practice (continuous monitoring of work quality, ongoing evaluation of the Roma assistants' work),
- to continue the work in the Roma educational incubators,
- to inspire confidence in institutions for Roma parents and raise their awareness that education is necessary for successful integration into society.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementat	Financial resources
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	partners, responsible for implementation					ion	
Early inclusion in education system—providing conditions for inclusion in pre-school education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Ministry of Education and Sport, – the selected applicant to the public call for proposals or the beneficiary of a direct confirmation of operations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the development of a model of pre-school education in the form of a kindergarten in a Roma settlement (number of developed models) – the number of Roma assistants included in the system of integration of Roma children in pre-school education in one single year 	Evaluation of projects, financed by the ESF.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – encouraging early integration of Roma children into pre-school education by developing and promoting models of pre-school education in the Roma settlements, which consider different forms of educational work with Roma children – baseline – 1 (preparatory kindergarten in Kerinov Grm) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – at least 2 models of pre-school education in the Roma settlements 	2017–2021 (during the EU financial perspective)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – EU funds (ESF) and the state budget: EUR 80,000.00 per year (until 2021 EUR 960,000.00)

3.3.1.1.3 Goal: introduction of Roma assistants in the educational process

Explanation:

The work of Roma assistants in schools and kindergartens has proven very effective in the inclusion of Roma children in education. Evaluations of the present projects have shown the Roma assistants to be an extremely important bridge between schools or kindergartens as an institution and the Roma families. Namely, the Roma assistants provide the necessary assistance in the inclusion of the Roma children in pre-school and primary education, because entry into

the formal institutions such as educational institutions is often very difficult due to a different culture, language and social deficit. Drop-out has decreased due to the activity of the Roma assistants, while the confidence of Roma parents has increased. There will also be a proposal of a systemic integration of Roma assistant (new job) in the framework of the system for remuneration of public servants.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Integration of Roma assistants into primary schools, partly into secondary schools	–Ministry of Education and Sport, – the selected applicant to the public call for proposals or the beneficiary of a direct confirmation of operations	Inclusion of 25 Roma assistants 25 are foreseen in primary schools, all of them will also cooperate with kindergartens, attended by children who will later be included in these primary schools. Two of the Roma assistants have been working and will continue to do so at a primary school with special curriculum	– evaluation of projects financed by the ESF – evaluation of the work and effect of the Roma assistant (Centre for School and Outdoor Education)	– inclusion of the Roma assistants who are the main link between school and the Roma community, mainly through contact with the children’s parents, – 22 Roma assistants.	– to maintain the inclusion of 22 Roma assistants	2017–2021 (during the EU financial perspective)	EU funds (ESF) and the state budget: EUR 458,974.00 per year for 22 jobs (EUR 2,501.100 until 2021)

		teaching programmes. For now, there are no Roma assistants in secondary schools and they will be introduced based on financial and staff capabilities of the project.					
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3.3.1.1.4 Goal: to increase the social and cultural capital in Roma settlements or settlements with the majority of Roma population

Explanation:

Often, Roma settlements are relatively closed systems, which negatively influences the development of social and cultural capital of individuals and communities living in these settlements. Practice has shown that it is necessary for the strengthening of social and cultural capital of the Roma community members to work with them in their settlements in order to restore confidence and at the same time to enable improved integration between different departments in this work. Namely, to achieve a significant impact and the set goals of improved social and cultural capital of individuals and communities, cooperation and integration between institutions (education, social, health, work, family, culture, etc.) is necessary as well as coordinated and complementary work in the settlements with majority Roma population.

Based on the experience from the previous projects and the already initiated activities, there will be new so-called Roma educational incubators introduced, the functioning ones will be maintained or the former ones upgraded to multi-purpose centres including various activities related in content, so as to achieve greater social integration of Roma community members in the wider environment and to promote knowledge, higher education and lifelong learning. Multi-purpose centres will also set up a mechanism of an educational incubator.

Explanation of the sub-measure:

A greater emphasis is intended to be given to activities which would take the children and their parents away from the settlement. In education, these include extracurricular activities including outdoor learning, excursions, visiting performances and exhibitions and similar. Given that opening up Roma settlements is

a long-term goal, the Roma educational incubators in the settlements represent the first phase for gaining confidence, in the second phase extracurricular activities will be added, which based on this confidence ensure the actual opening up of these settlements by presenting the wider world (natural and cultural) to both children and parents in the settlement.

Together with other ministries (Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Culture), the Roma educational incubators are connected to wider centres, where a Roma coordinator ensures links between different thematic areas, including educational. This could be achieved by connecting institutions working in the areas of the measures for the work with Roma and various activities have already been implemented at numerous locations. On the ground, it would make sense to connect and coordinate especially schools and kindergartens, local authorities, the employment services, social work centres, police directorate and any other institution performing activities on the ground, including non-governmental organisations. In the long run, the Roma multi-purpose centres would represent the centre of activities and development in individual local Roma communities. It would be reasonable to include Roma more in the work in Roma educational incubators/centres. It has proven that simultaneous employment and participation of Roma and the majority population in activities carried out in settlements is a very good way to share their knowledge and to learn about the cultural differences, producing at least two important results: overcoming prejudices and mutual learning of the Romani and the Slovenian language. Then, both results are transmitted to children and their parents via the providers. This approach requires a little more time and effort; however, its long-term results are extremely positive.

Planned activities:

- provision of study assistance for primary and secondary school population,
- educational, creative and sports activities for pre-school children and primary and secondary school pupils,
- connection of schools and Roma incubators with the system of extracurricular activities, adapted to Roma children and their parents,
- connection with Roma assistants.

Sports activities will be a part of the activities of multi-purpose centres in the project Together for Knowledge until 2021.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Increase of social and cultural capital in Roma settlements – connecting	–Ministry of Education and Sport, – the selected applicant to the public	8 Roma educational incubators (REI) in Roma	Evaluation of projects, financed by the ESF.	– to continue the work in 7 Roma incubators (REI Prekmurje	– 8 (1 additional REI, probably in	2017–2021 (during the EU financial perspective)	EU funds (ESF) and the state budget: EUR 3,032.26

<p>institutions (social, health, work, family, education (formal and informal), infrastructure, environment, local integration)</p> <p>Sub-measure: Implementation of educational incubators, with emphasis on study assistance, educational activities and extracurricular activities</p>	<p>call for proposals or the beneficiary of a direct confirmation of operations</p>	<p>centres</p>		<p>(Vanča vas - Borejci), REI Grosuplje (Smrekec), REI Trebnje (Vejar), REI Novo mesto (Brezje and Šmihel) REI Škocjan (Dobruška vas), REI Krško (Kerinov Grm) and REI Bela krajina (Lokve))</p>	<p>Kočevje municipality) – activities in the framework of the 8 planned centres will be spread to additional locations in the local environment.</p>		<p>0 until 2021 (school part, including sport)</p>
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3.3.1.1.5 Goal: promotion of language learning for Roma children

Explanation:

In the framework of the project Together for Knowledge, in 2017 the Centre for School and Outdoor Education will begin preparing interactive e-materials for the on-line classroom which will enable Roma children and their parents to enrich their vocabulary in the Slovenian and Romani languages. The materials will be available in a publicly accessible on-line classroom, Roma children and their parents will be able to access them in the multi-purpose centres in the Roma settlements, where the Centre for School and Outdoor Education in the framework of the project Together for Knowledge already now enable the use of a wireless internet connection and the use of tablet computers at most of the locations. In the first phase, the materials will be in Slovenian and in Prekmurje Romani, and by the end of the Together for Knowledge project (August 2021) also in Dolenjska Romani.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
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	for implementation						
Enriching the vocabulary of Roma children	Ministry of Education, Science and Sport and Centre for School and Outdoor Education	– skills in learning the language using information technology applications	Evaluation of projects, financed by the ESF.	– promotion of language learning and getting to know modern technologies	– on-line classroom with materials in the Slovenian and the Romani languages	2017–2021 (during the EU financial perspective)	The funds have been secured in the Together for Knowledge project.

3.3.1.1.6 Goal: integration of Roma in the apprenticeship system

Explanation:

It is estimated that the apprenticeship system introduced by the newly adopted Law on Apprenticeship (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [Uradni list RS] No. 25/17) may also be very useful and successful for Roma because its goals include the reduction of the share of unemployed young people and the prevention of social exclusion. Namely, apprenticeship and structured practical training for work help to form job vacancies and the related education and training. With the help of the authority competent for national minorities, the competent ministry will promote the apprenticeship system as much as possible among Roma, Roma representatives, Roma organisations, etc., and in the framework of other projects implemented by the competent ministry for the Roma population.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Inclusion of Roma in the apprenticeship system	–Ministry of Education and Sport, – participants: Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for National Minorities	The number of Roma in the system.	– records on vocational and technical education	– promotion of the integration of Roma into vocational and technical education	– reduction in the unemployment rate among the young Roma and the	– from the school year 2017/2018	No specific financial resources have been foreseen for the promotion

	(hereinafter referred to as the Office for National Minorities)				prevention of social exclusion		of apprenticeship
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3.3.1.1.7 Goal: training of professional workers who work with Roma pupils and students

Explanation:

It is a project intended for the training of professionals working in the field of pre-university education and the strengthening of their competences, which due to constant changes in education have proven important for quality educational work. These include enterprises and entrepreneurship, lifelong learning, lifelong career orientation, language competences of teachers and pre-school teachers (also in the area of national communities), mobility of teachers and pre-school teachers, learning difficulties and learning to learn, innovative approaches to teaching, management of a public institution with the use of information and communication technology, improvement of quality with the use of data from national assessments of knowledge and matriculation examinations, support for the processes of self-evaluation and improvement of learning and teaching. Thus, the models of best educational practices will be implemented. An educational programme in the framework of this project (seminar for professional workers who work with Roma pupils) belongs to the subject area of learning difficulties and learning to learn (individualisation and differentiation presume sensitivity to individual differences between education participants (in prior knowledge, competences, perception of learning, learning style and strategies, interests, motivation, beliefs regarding self-efficiency and feelings and under the social environment conditions, such as linguistic, cultural and social background) and (over)compensation of differences arising from a non-stimulating family environment or other causes, responsibility of the education participants which offers the strengthening of accountability and initiative as well as intentional learning by the participants).

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Enhancing professional workers' competences	National Education Institute of the Republic of Slovenia	By enhancing the competences of the professional workers in education and	Evaluation of projects, financed by the ESF.	Dissemination of knowledge with new, advanced learning methods with emphasis on experiential	The National Education Institute of the Republic of Slovenia will be training a total of 4,688 profession	31. 8. 2018	EU funds (ESF) and the state budget. The value of the entire project is

		<p>training, including their inter-sectoral mobility between various levels of education, the qualifications of the professional workers will be enhanced so that they will contribute to the development of critical and creative thinking, analytical skills, entrepreneurship, digital capacities and other general and professional competences by the young.</p>		<p>learning and integration with the economy. This way some conditions will be fulfilled for the development of innovative learning environments and the introduction of methods and pedagogical practices by also including modern technologies which will ensure the enhancement of general and professional competences of participants in education.</p>	<p>al workers, 40 of whom will be trained for the education of Roma children. This data only applies to the management partner, i.e. the National Education Institute of the Republic of Slovenia, and for other partners different numbers of indicators with lower financial resources apply.</p>	<p>EUR 807,264 .71.</p>
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3.3.2 PROMOTING EMPLOYMENT OF ROMA

The promotion of Roma employment is addressed by the state in the framework of the legislation⁷ and the strategic programming documents⁸ in this area, based on which Roma are recognised as one of the vulnerable groups of population, for which long-term unemployment is particularly significant. The state addresses this deficit in the framework of the measures of active employment policy.

Also in the period of the NPUR 2017–2021, unemployed Roma people will have the possibility to be included in the active employment policy (AEP) programmes and services for the labour market workshops, and they will be able to benefit from the services of careers centres.

3.3.2.1 MEASURES IN THE AREA OF EMPLOYMENT

3.3.2.1.1 Goal: to reduce the number of unemployed Roma people and raise their employability

Explanation:

Unemployed Roma people like all other unemployed people are entitled and obliged to be included in the AEP measures to enhance their employment opportunities. To achieve this goal, Roma people will have the possibility to be included in all AEP measures intended for unemployed persons:

- to receive training and education,
- to receive employment incentives,
- for creating jobs,
- for the promotion of self-employment and
- for the labour market services workshops and careers centres.

All AEP measures, consisting of a set of individual activities/programmes in individual AEP measures, labour market services workshops and careers centres form a comprehensive action for the priority area of Promoting Employment of Roma.

Effective promotion of the employment of Roma can only be achieved when all the government measures in the labour market are in synergy. Consequently, all AEP measures consisting of a set of individual activities/programmes, workshops in the framework of labour market services workshops and careers centres, form a single action on this priority area and they are consolidated under the measure Including Roma people in the state measures on the labour market for the period 2017–2021 for promoting employment of Roma people in the priority area.

The set of activities, programmes and services in this action may change, because their implementation and the preparation and introduction of new ones depend on the state of the labour market, the structural problems of the labour market and the available budget of the Republic of Slovenia or the ESF.

⁷ See Annex to NPUR 2017–2021.

⁸ See Annex to NPUR 2017–2021.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Starting points	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Including Roma in the state measures on the labour market for the period 2017–2021	Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs/Employment Service of Slovenia (ZRSZ)	No. of Roma included in measure No. 1 (2,450/year or 12,150 Roma until 2020).	– records of unemployed persons at the ZRSZ, APZ net ZRSZ (ZRSZ application for monitoring the implementation of the Active Employment Policy)	2,450 Roma per year	2,300 Roma per year	2021	– integral budget, ESF

3.3.3 SOCIAL SECURITY, SOCIAL INTEGRATION, PROTECTION OF CHILDREN, WOMEN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

In the field of social security, Roma are treated as one of the particularly vulnerable groups of the population,⁹ which in the framework of measures to reduce the risk of poverty and to increase the social integration of socially disadvantaged and vulnerable groups of the population needs both integrated and targeted measures with the goal of the social activation of Roma and better quality, faster and easier integration into society. To achieve this goal, it is necessary in the initial phase to bring the programmes and institutions closer to the Roma population in the environments where they live, to strengthen the integration and cooperation of institutions when dealing with issues related to the social integration of Roma, and to enable at the same time information and access to information to the Roma population relating to the social security programmes and to enhance and improve their social situation. In this direction, it is necessary to raise awareness and train both the representatives of Roma as well as the public servants dealing with Roma.

3.3.3.1 MEASURES IN SOCIAL SECURITY, SOCIAL INTEGRATION, PROTECTION OF CHILDREN, WOMEN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

3.3.3.1.1 **Goal:** to reduce the risk of poverty and to enhance social integration of socially disadvantaged groups of the population

The goals are as follows:

a) development of new (innovative) measures for the reduction of poverty and social integration of groups with the highest risk of poverty and vulnerable groups (children, the elderly, single-parent families, elderly single women, etc.) and to change the effects of various measures on these groups,

⁹ See Annex to NPUR 2017–2021 regarding the applicable legal frame and the programme documents in this area.

- b) promotion of the integration of the recipients of financial social assistance in the programmes of the Active Employment Policy programme and psychosocial rehabilitation and social activation,
- c) promotion of the employment of recipients of financial social assistance who are employable,
- d) promotion of the development of various preventive programmes and an increase in the number of preventive programmes for the promotion of solidarity, non-discrimination and reduction of inequality in all areas of life and work and the development of volunteering.

3.3.3.1.2 **Goal:** to improve the availability and diversity and to ensure accessibility and availability of services and programmes

The goal is to ensure the availability (affordability) of the services and programmes to the users, regardless of their social status.

Explanation:

Resolution on the National Social Assistance Programme 2013–2020 (ReNPSV13-20), published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*] No. 39/13 of 6 May 2013, also included the goal of the reduction of the risk of poverty and an increase of social integration of socially disadvantaged and vulnerable groups of the population. The programme networks shall be designed for individual areas or individual target groups, also including the programmes for the social integration of Roma (preventive, informational and counselling programmes, consultancy and on-the-ground work, activation programmes, etc.) Since Roma people mostly belong to the more vulnerable social groups, especially Roma children and young people, their risk of slipping into poverty (as transgenerational transmission of poverty) is the highest and thus they need incentives and possibilities for personal development and strengthening of their socio-economic situation. One of the ways to provide such incentives and opportunities is the co-financing of programmes in the framework of which various thematic areas intended for the realisation of the above-mentioned goals are implemented.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Network of public services in the field of social security programmes	Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs or the providers chosen in a public call for proposals procedure for the co-financing of social security programmes and family support programmes	The goal in this area of work in the national social security programme until 2020 includes 10 social security	The reports of the chosen operators (partial, final, etc.) site visits regarding the implementation of the	In 2016, the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs co-financed 3 programmes.	– at least 10 five-year social security programmes	2017–2021	For the period 2017–2021, the programmes of social integration of Roma estimate funds

		programmes (programmes intended for children, adolescents and families).	programmes, evaluation of the programme, performed by the Social Protection Institute of the Republic of Slovenia, etc.				in the amount of EUR 600,000, which are provided under the PP 170082 - Developmental and experimental social protection programmes, measure 2611-11-0036.
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3.3.3.1.3 Goal: implementation of preventive programmes for the training of professional staff in social work centres on the guidelines and recommendations in cases of minors escaping to harmful environments

Explanation:

Professional workers at social work centres (CSD), who work with vulnerable social groups, must be familiar both with the causes and the consequences sustained by the underage victims of escapes to harmful environments. Given that such practices are related to learned socialisation patterns passed on from generation to generation, it is necessary to provide proper training to the professionals, who work at CSDs with the Roma population. This is related to the violation of fundamental rights of children considering the international and national legislation applicable in Slovenia. With the preparation of the guidelines and recommendations for the work of the professional workers of social work centres in the cases of underage persons escaping to harmful environments, a uniform professional approach will be established along with increased effectiveness of the protection of vulnerable children.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources

	implementation						
Preparation of guidelines and recommendations for the work of social work centres' professional workers in cases of underage persons escaping to harmful environments	Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs	– preparation and adoption of a single document of guidelines and recommendations for the work of social work centres' (CSD) professional workers in cases of underage persons escaping to harmful environments	The Social Protection Institute of the Republic of Slovenia (IRRSV) – research titled <i>Prisilne poroke romskih deklic</i> (Forced marriages of Roma girls), 2014, the CSD statistics	0	- preparation and adoption of 1 uniform document of guidelines and recommendations for the work of CSD professional workers in cases of underage persons escaping to harmful environments - 1 annual training session for 50 CSD professional workers	2018 Regularly – every year	No specific financial resources are foreseen for this, as the Social Chamber of Slovenia (SZS) must implement the training of professional workers in the framework of its regular activities.

3.3.3.1.4 Goal: financing of advisory programmes for the Roma population on so-called early and forced marriages and the consequences of such practices

Explanation:

Non-governmental organisations that already implement education and training for the Roma community on the ground, can also include thematic areas of so-called forced and early marriages in their programmes. Thus, it will be easiest to accede to the target population—Roma girls and boys—through education on harmful cultural practices and the rights of children at the same time. The strengthening of the role of Roma women may thus be promoted at the same time. The legal basis for the training of professional workers in domestic violence prevention, including early and forced marriages among Roma and highlighting the consequences of such practices by the parents to their children lies in the Domestic Violence Prevention Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*] Nos 16/08 and 68/16). Forced marriage is a criminal offence, defined in Article 132.a of the Criminal Code (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*] No. 50/12 – official consolidated version, 6/16 – amended, 54/15 and 38/16).

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Activities for addressing the problem of early, agreed and forced marriages	Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, providers chosen in a public call for proposals procedure for the establishment of multi-purpose Roma centres.	– a reduction in the number of early and forced marriages	– IRSSV – research <i>Prisilne poroke romskih deklic</i> (Forced marriages of Roma girls), 2014, – information from the social work centres, – information from the police	0	– at least 1 activity in the form of training and education for the Roma community per year	– until the end of 2021	ESF, state budget (under the call for proposals for the establishment of multi-purpose Roma centres)

3.3.3.1.5 goal: Concerted and coordinated action by the competent institutions in the procedures for dealing with cases of cohabitation with minor.

Explanation:

Since the publication of the Social Protection Institute of the Republic of Slovenia research in 2014 about forced marriages of Roma girls, the awareness among the competent institutions included in the procedures for dealing with cases of cohabitation with minor began to grow that all the institutions must act in a harmonised and coordinated manner and especially in favour of the underage persons dealt with in these cases. According to the data of the working group of the regional coordination for addressing domestic violence at the Association of Social Work Centres of Slovenia, in 2016, there were 14 cases of the so-called escapes of adolescent girls from home with a view to creating a cohabitation, when the intervention services had to intervene in Dolenjska and Bela Krajina, 4 cases in the region adjacent to Ljubljana (Kočevje, Ribnica, Grosuplje) and 4 cases in the Posavje region. According to the data of the working group, the above-mentioned interventions occur every year in different numbers. These cases are mostly treated as a criminal offence and if related to escape of children under the age of 15 years, they are always treated as such. Dealing with these cases, the professional workers of the CSD have never taken the

cohabitations with minors lightly; however, they often feel powerless, because they depend on the will of the minors and/or the will of their partners, who are also minors, and or their parents. Dealing with these cases, social work centres also cooperate closely with other competent institutions, such as the police, public prosecutor's department and the court, and in the proceedings, the elements of a criminal offence, as defined in Article 173 of the Criminal Code, talking about a sexual act with a person under 15 years of age with obvious imbalances between the maturity of the perpetrator and the victim. In practice, the elements that define this type of offence are ruled out, as most often the cases are not related to imbalance in age and the girls enter the cohabitation voluntarily. Such existing practice is strongly unacceptable as it does not consider the children's rights and the consequences for a child's life that such practice brings. Regardless of some steps and emergency measures taken in 2016 by social work centres and the police to find adolescent girls and return them to their parents, there is still lack of a clear commitment and a protocol of action for all competent institutions to enable prevention of an adolescent girl to be accepted into a family where a harmful environment for her further development would undoubtedly be created. By the end of 2017, the authority competent for national minorities will begin preparing the protocol of action in this area in cooperation with all the competent institutions.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Preparation of a protocol of action in the proceedings for dealing with cases of cohabitation with minor	– Office for National Minorities in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, the MNZ/Police, Association of Social Work Centres of Slovenia, social work centres, public prosecutor's department,	– a clear protocol of action prepared – number of treated cases – number of successfully solved cases based on the prepared protocol of action	– IRSSV - research <i>Prisilne poroke romskih deklic</i> (Forced marriages of Roma girls), 2014; – information by social work centres or associations of social work centres of Slovenia; – information	/	– protocol of action prepared	2018	No financial implications have been foreseen (the preparation of the protocol requires no additional financial resources and will be financed by the state budget as a regular work obligation)

	Ministry of Justice (MP), courts and tribunals		by the Police				
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3.3.3.1.6 Goal: to promote the improvement of the socio-economic situation of Roma community members by establishing multi-purpose Roma centres, where thematic areas intended for their integration in society and the approximation to the labour market will be implemented

Explanation:

The goal of the measure includes cross-sector networking (in social security, education, culture, health and employment) for the creation of an integrated multidisciplinary approach, where the way towards greater social integration and the strengthening of the role of the Roma population for approximation to the labour market will be completed in content through coordination and the offer of various activities and programmes.

In the framework of planned multi-purpose Roma centres (probably 11), the tasks of linking thematic areas (social, employment, educational, cultural and health) in the work with Roma will be assumed by the so-called Roma activator. The centres will work in environments with the largest estimated share of Roma population and with a greater need for multidisciplinary work with the Roma population. The entire system of thematic areas implemented in the centres will be coordinated across sectors with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport and the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities. Each centre will employ at least one Roma activator, who will direct the overall operation of the multi-purpose centre and work closely with all other stakeholders to provide solutions for social and economic problems and challenges faced by Roma in the local environment where the multi-purpose centre would be established, and to mitigate these problems and challenges. The activator will coordinate activities in the centre, cooperate intensively with all other stakeholders carrying out activities for the improvement of the socio-economic situation of Roma community members (social work centres, Employment Service of Slovenia, health, culture, education), ensure and promote integration with the local community and ensure baseline activities for social activation to be implemented in the multi-purpose centre, such as promotion of integration in social activities and the establishment and expansion of individual's social network. The entire system will take into account the strategic documents in relation to Roma.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Establishment of likely 11	Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs or	11 established multi-purpose	Survey questionnaire sent	8 Roma incubators from	11 multi-purpose	– by the end of September	EUR 1,680,000 from ESF

multi-purpose centres for Roma	beneficiaries, chosen in a public call for proposals procedure	centres. Specific indicators: 1,650 activities performed	to 62 social work centres.	the previous project under the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport	centres for Roma	2021	funds
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3.3.3.2 MEASURES IN SCHOLARSHIPS

3.3.3.2.1 Goal: to ensure conditions for Roma community members to be included in a proper scholarship policy

Explanation:

Based on Article 12 of the Scholarship Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*] Nos 56/13, 99/13 – ZUPJS-C and 8/16; ZŠtip-1), which stipulates the general conditions for the acquisition of scholarships, Roma community members can apply for the scholarship, too. Scholarships are awarded for secondary and tertiary education to stimulate Roma community members to decide to continue schooling after completing compulsory primary education. It is necessary to ensure that the target group is informed of the scholarships option, which would contribute to an increased number of decisions to continue secondary level education. The measure of information on the option of receiving scholarships for further education will be implemented via primary schools, social work centres and local communities in regions, where Roma community members attend school.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Promoting the transmission of information to Roma community members on the options of scholarships	Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs in cooperation with Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, social work centres and local communities	The number of Roma in the system.	– record of recipients of scholarships	250 Roma	250 Roma	2021	– integral budget

3.3. HEALTH CARE

At the national level, the rights and access to health care services, both curative and preventive, are the same for all citizens of the Republic of Slovenia. Strategic guidelines and bases in this area are provided by the central programming document, i.e. the Resolution on National Health Care Plan 2016–2025 “Together for a healthy society” (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*] No. 25/16; ResNPZV)¹⁰, and one of the main prerequisites is to provide good quality public health services, accessible to all, which puts the user and the provider at the centre, pursues better health and well-being for all and strives to reduce the inequalities in health, which is a particularly important starting point with regard to Roma as one of the most vulnerable groups of the population.

3.3.4.1 MEASURES IN HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE

3.3.4.1.1 Goal: elimination of structural, institutional, interrelational and individual obstacles in using health care services in the health care network and creation and transmission of proactive health thematic areas, accessible to Roma and included in the community

Explanation:

Common social exclusion of Roma and the absence of social support networks and ties often induce exclusion from health care systems and aggravate unhealthy lifestyle. Most often, poor health condition is attributed to less appropriate medical care, financial barriers in the use of health services and non-financial barriers in the use of health services, such as psychological, relational and social problems. Here, it is necessary to add a health threatening lifestyle because of the absence of adequate housing or often living in an unstable environment, exposed to unforeseen factors. For several reasons, Roma get health care when their health condition is so poor that they are taken there by other people or if they resort to emergency aid themselves when in distress. To provide accessibility to health care to the most disadvantaged part of the population, Roma are provided with accessible proactive thematic areas integrated in community, where the providers make the first step to the people in need in their environment instead of waiting for Roma to begin searching for their services. Such thematic areas are based on personalised and non-discriminatory paradigms integrated in the living space. The thematic area implemented annually shall be arranged by the implementing body and the participating partners competent for implementation.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
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¹⁰ See Annex to NPUR 2017–2021 about the regulations and system measures in this area.

	for implementation						
<p>Proliferation of health thematic areas, programmes, workshops, trainings and transfer of best practices intended for Roma in The communities where they live; education and awareness raising of the specialised public and medical staff of Roma and health; implementation of research and evaluations</p>	<p>– Ministry of Health, Office for National Minorities – participating partners: National Institute of Public Health, health institutions, professional workers in health and care for the Roma, volunteers, professional associations, humanitarian organisations, Roma Union of Slovenia, Romani Union, Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia, adult education centres in individual areas</p>	<p>– the number of Roma (by age and sex) in all Roma settlements included in the activities of transferring health thematic areas, – the number of Roma included in the awareness raising programmes on the functioning of the public health system and accessibility of medical assistance from the general or specialist doctor. – established record of the most pressing health problems and</p>	<p>The data is analysed on the basis of direct work in Roma settlements and other scientific research methods.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>At least one annual activity including Roma settlements in Slovenia.</p>	<p>2017–2021</p>	<p>– state budget resources (Ministry of Health): up to EUR 35,00 0.00 in 2017, – approximately EUR 35,00 0.00 per year by the end of the NPUR 2017–2021 period</p>

		<p>health care services in the Roma settlements with proposals for solutions,</p> <p>– record on the no. of persons without insurance and help in arranging insurance,</p> <p>– the no. of young Roma with a completed medical school or proper education in health care included in the implemented projects with a relevant role</p>					
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3.3.4.1.2 Goal: successful integration of Roma in the environment – healthy lifestyle

Explanation:

The path towards greater social inclusion and the strengthening of the role of the Roma population for approximation to the labour market is intended to be wrapped up in content by means of coordination and the supply of various activities and programmes and through an inter-ministerial integration (social security, education, culture, health and employment) for an integrated multidisciplinary approach. The goals of this measure include improvement of the health

literacy of the Roma population, adaptation of the medical and educational thematic areas to their needs and characteristics and cooperation with Roma assistants and coordinators in health.

The thematic areas of this measure will contribute to the reduction of health disparities between groups of users by raising awareness of the Roma population of the meaning of health, by improving public workers' communication and with interinstitutional cooperation. The programmes will be intended for the Roma community, especially children and women. A health care professional with experience and competences to work with the Roma population, and with knowledge of the health care system and the characteristics of work with the Roma population, with experiences in projects and one who is qualified to work with Roma will:

- prepare and coordinate the implementation of health thematic areas intended for Roma in the framework of the established thematic areas to be implemented in the multi-purpose centres in the settlements with majority Roma population or in the framework of health thematic areas to be prepared independently,
- coordinate the implementation (with professional services and non-governmental organisations) of health thematic areas intended for Roma, and offer expert support to the providers.

The main emphasis in the preparation of thematic areas lies on dialogue, education and awareness raising for the improvement of the health literacy of Roma. Planned activities under this action shall include:

- improvement of health workers' competences for more work with better competences with Roma in delivering health thematic areas to the Roma population,
- cooperation of health workers with the Roma assistants and coordinators in the multi-purpose centres in the field of Roma health,
- promotion of healthy lifestyle for the Roma population customised to them.

Such a measure is assumed to achieve the following results:

- improvement of health workers' competences for work with the Roma population,
- creation of adopted health-educational thematic areas for improving the health of the Roma population,
- increase in the share of vulnerable groups included in training at the end of the programmes.

Target groups include groups of population (Roma) with a higher risk of chronic diseases.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources

Improvement of health workers' competences, integration and strengthening of the cooperation between health workers and the Roma assistants and promotion of healthy lifestyle among the Roma population	– National Institute of Public Health, – participating partners: Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, Ministry of Culture, health institutions, professional workers in the field of health and care for the Roma, Roma assistants and coordinators, local communities	Number of vulnerable groups involved in education or training.	The data shall be analysed based on direct work in multi-purpose centres and through the evaluation of the project financed by the ESF.	0	– at least three health thematic areas realised in each of the eleven multi-purpose centres	2016-2018	– EU funds (ESF): EUR 20,00 0.00 per year
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3.3.5 HOUSING SITUATION AND ACCESS TO HOUSING

Based on the applicable legislation, the municipality is competent for the area of local area management and spatial planning and therefore the management of Roma settlements.¹¹ Because municipalities face numerous complex challenges with regard to the applicable legislation in the case of Roma settlements, some strategic measures have been implemented at the national level with the goal to identify and address the spatial challenges of these settlements and to provide help to municipalities by defining the concept of possible approaches in the direction of their tasks and consequently contribute to an increased and more rapid integration of Roma into society.

Municipalities have been more or less taking into account the guidelines prepared in the previous period; however, they are facing numerous complex challenges, which is why greater engagement of the state institutions will have to be ensured and Roma will have to be encouraged to cooperate and participate in this process. Thus, additional measures and mechanisms are necessary to enable the provision of the same baseline options for the population living in settlements with an unregulated housing situation for a longer period. In the forthcoming period, increased emphasis will be given to support to municipalities in providing rented dwellings and housing units for encouraging the opening up of settlements and expedited and simplified integration into

¹¹ See Annex to NPUR 2017–2021 with regard to the applicable legislation and strategic guidelines in this area.

society. Also in the area of housing situation and access to housing, it is extremely important to emphasise that success in this area is very closely linked to and interdependent on other priority areas and measures, particularly in education and raising educational attainment levels, in employment, health and measures in the framework of the social policy.

3.3.5.1 MEASURES IN THE AREA OF HOUSING SITUATION AND ACCESS TO HOUSING

3.3.5.1.1 Goal: integration of settlements with majority Roma population into the settlement system of Slovenia and prevention of further isolation, segregation and ghettoisation of these settlements with additional measures

Explanation:

As a rule, Roma settlements in Slovenia stand on the outskirts of the populated areas or even separate from the settlements in isolated areas outside settlements, which is due to the historical settlements of Roma in Slovenia during the transition of Roma from the nomadic or semi-nomadic way of life to a permanent settlement. Because of these unusual circumstances of their origin, the Roma settlements differ by location, layout design, structure of the buildings, architectural features and infrastructure equipment from other settlements of the Slovenian settlement network. In most cases, the Roma settlements are located on land intended for agriculture or on endangered or protected areas. As a rule, the facilities in Roma settlements are illegal, built on foreign lands and they are not connected to the economic public infrastructure.

In view of the above, the goals of the measures in the area of housing situation include spatial verification of the facilities and the situation of the Roma settlements, maintenance of the existing locations of the settlements, their inclusion in the state settlement system and a comprehensive urban and infrastructural arrangement of the settlements.

By including all Roma settlements in a single settlement system of Slovenia, the local communities will be committed to equal dealing with the Roma settlements in spatial planning and to including them in spatial development in their area. At the same time, they will be able to monitor population and migration movements and other indicators related to the progress made throughout the local and higher-level development of the Roma community based on data analysis of the number and scope of the Roma settlements, their position, infrastructural equipment and housing standard. Another of the goals is to obtain concrete output data for applying to various national calls for proposals and calls for drawing EU funds.

At its 134th regular session on 11 May 2017, the government of the Republic of Slovenia established an inter-ministerial working group to resolve issues relating to Roma. The inter-ministerial working group shall be responsible for the review of the current state of the spatial issues at individual Roma settlements and for the preparation of proposals for resolving these issues and its main tasks shall include:

- preparation of an examination of the spatial issues in individual Roma settlements in Slovenia,
- preparation of an examination and an analysis of best practices in the regulation of spatial issues and the housing situation of Roma,
- preparation of draft measures (legislative, organisational, financial, etc.) for the regulation of spatial issues and improvement of the housing situation of Roma.

The inter-ministerial working group will include representatives of the ministries of the environment and spatial planning, of public administration, of economic development and technology and of agriculture, forestry and food and representatives of the Secretariat-General of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the authority competent for national minorities. The group will also include in their work representatives of the Roma community organisations, of the Government Commission of the Republic of Slovenia for the Protection of the Roma Community and of municipal associations. If necessary, the working group shall subsequently also include representatives from other ministries.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
1. Preparation of recommendations for municipalities where Roma live to address the recorded existing Roma settlements in the process of preparing municipal spatial plans or amendments thereto.	Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning (MOP), Spatial Planning, Construction and Housing Directorate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – produced recommendations sent to municipalities where Roma live, – data on whether municipalities have considered the recommendations concerning the consideration of the Roma settlements in the preparation of the municipal spatial plans or amendments 	Data on the Roma settlements, collected in the work titled <i>Zajem, nadgradnja in vzdrževanje podatkov ter oblikovanje kazalcev, postopkov in metod za celostno socialno in prostorsko vključevanje romske skupnosti</i> (Collection, upgrade and	The number of Roma settlements included by municipalities in the settlement system of Slovenia (definition of the Roma settlement in the municipal spatial plan to enable legalisation and further regulation or development).	All the recorded existing Roma settlements are included in the settlement system of Slovenia.	2017-2021	There are no significant financial implications (preparation of the recommendation does not require additional financial resources and will be financed from the state budget as a regular work obligation). In the framework of the

		<p>thereto, – the number of positively solved initiatives for the definition of the Roma settlements in the framework of drawing up municipal spatial plans or amendments thereto</p>	<p>maintenance of data and establishment of indicators, procedures and methods for a comprehensive social and spatial integration of the Roma community), – data from the official records of the Ministry on preparation procedures for the municipal spatial plans, – data of the inter-ministerial working group for resolving spatial issues of Roma</p>				<p>preparation of municipal spatial plans or amendments thereto, the definition of the Roma settlements does not require any special additional resources (municipal spatial plan preparation procedures shall be financed by the municipalities from the municipal budget, inclusion of the Roma settlements in the procedure of preparation does not require additional financial resources).</p>
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<p>2. Preparation of proposals for solutions to improve the housing situation of Roma by individual Roma settlements based on the review of the current state of spatial issues.</p>	<p>– Government of the Republic of Slovenia, – Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, other competent ministries and government offices, – Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia, – associations of municipalities</p>	<p>– establishment of inter-ministerial working group, – the number of Roma settlements where the state of spatial issues was reviewed by the inter-ministerial working group, – the number of Roma settlements regulated on the basis of proposals by the inter-ministerial working group</p>	<p>Data on the Roma settlements, collected in the work titled <i>Zajem, nadgradnja in vzdrževanje podatkov ter oblikovanje kazalcev, postopkov in metod za celostno socialno in prostorsko vključevanje romske skupnosti</i> (Collection, upgrade and maintenance of data and establishment of indicators, procedures and methods for a comprehensive social and spatial integration of the Roma community).</p>	<p>The number of Roma settlements where the housing situation has improved and which are considered examples of best practice.</p>	<p>The housing situation has improved in all the recorded existing Roma settlements.</p>	<p>31 May 2018</p>	<p>There are no significant financial implications (establishment and operation of the inter-ministerial working group and preparation of materials do not require additional financial resources and shall be financed from the state budget as a regular work obligation).</p>
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<p>3. Use of data on Roma settlements, collected in the work titled <i>Zajem, nadgradnja in vzdrževanje podatkov ter oblikovanje kazalcev, postopkov in metod za celostno socialno in prostorsko vključevanje romske skupnosti</i> (Collection, upgrade and maintenance of data and establishment of indicators, procedures and methods for a comprehensive social and spatial integration of the Roma community), in the review of proposals for municipal spatial plans of municipalities where Roma live (or proposals for amendments thereto).</p>	<p>– Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Spatial Planning, Construction and Housing Directorate</p>	<p>– data on whether municipalities have considered the recommendations concerning the consideration of the Roma settlements in the preparation of the municipal spatial plans or amendments thereto, – data on how many Roma settlements were included by municipalities in the municipal settlement system based on recommendations</p>	<p>– data on Roma settlements, collected in the work titled <i>Zajem, nadgradnja in vzdrževanje podatkov ter oblikovanje kazalcev, postopkov in metod za celostno socialno in prostorsko vključevanje romske skupnosti</i>(Collection, upgrade and maintenance of data and establishment of indicators, procedures and methods for a comprehensive social and spatial integration of the Roma community), – data from the official records of the Ministry</p>	<p>The number of Roma settlements included by municipalities in the settlement system of Slovenia (definition of the Roma settlement in the municipal spatial plan to enable legalisation and further regulation or development).</p>	<p>All the recorded existing Roma settlements are included in the settlement system of Slovenia.</p>	<p>2017-2021</p>	<p>There are no significant financial implications. In the framework of the preparation of municipal spatial plans or amendments thereto, the definition of the Roma settlements does not require any special additional resources (municipal spatial plan preparation procedures shall be financed by the municipalities from the municipal budget, inclusion of the Roma settlements in the procedure</p>
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			on preparation procedures for the municipal spatial plans, – data from the analysis to be prepared by the inter-ministerial working group for solving the spatial Issues of Roma.				of preparation does not require additional financial resources).
4. Encouraging municipalities to provide municipal infrastructure in the recorded existing Roma settlements based on programmes for the supply of utility services.	– Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Spatial Planning, Construction and Housing Directorate, – Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, Regional Development Directorate	– Preparation of the programme for the supply of utility services is one of the award criteria of the public call for proposals by the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology for the co-financing of municipalities in the construction of the municipal infrastructure in the Roma settlements, – the number of Roma	– data on Roma settlements, collected in the work titled <i>Zajem, nadgradnja in vzdrževanje podatkov ter oblikovanje kazalcev, postopkov in metod za celostno socialno in prostorsko vključevanje romske skupnosti</i> (Collection, upgrade and maintenance of data and	Information on the programmes for the supply of public utilities applying to the Roma settlements.	All the recorded existing Roma settlements are being supplied with public utilities based on the programmes for the supply of public utilities	2017-2021	There are no financial implications (the preparation of programmes for supplying public utilities shall be financed by municipalities from the local budget, additional financial resources are only required if municipalities create separate programmes for the supply

		settlements for which municipalities shall prepare a programme for the supply of public utilities independently or include them in some other programme for the supply of public utilities, – the number of junctions made to the existing municipal infrastructure in the Roma settlements.	establishment of indicators, procedures and methods for a comprehensive social and spatial integration of the Roma community), – call for proposals by the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology for the co-financing of municipalities in the construction of municipal infrastructure in the Roma settlements.				of public utilities for individual Roma settlement).
5. Enactment of the system for permitting spatial interventions for the facilities that have already been built.	– Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Spatial Planning, Construction and Housing Directorate, line ministries involved in the inter-ministerial co-ordination.	– preparation and adoption of amendments to the Construction Act with appropriate content, – appropriate number of facilities in	Comparable regulations in other European countries	/	/	The time limit for the implementation shall be set in the Legislative Work Programme of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia.	There are no significant financial implications (procedure for amendments to legislation does not require additional

		Roma settlements for which a building permit was obtained based on the amendments to the Construction Act					financial resources and will be financed from the state budget as a regular work obligation). Building permit costs for the existing buildings shall be covered by the users of the buildings (natural persons).
6. Execution of the call for proposals for the co-financing of the construction of housing units	The Housing Fund of the Republic of Slovenia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – implementation of the call for proposals, – the number of municipalities with Roma population which used the call for proposals, – the number of housing units which have been built by the municipalities with Roma 	– data from the records of the Housing Fund of the Republic of Slovenia	/	/	2017-2021	The funds for the execution of the call for proposals and co-financing shall be covered by the Housing Fund of the Republic of Slovenia; the difference in the costs of providing and granting housing units shall be covered by the

		population from the budget available from the call for proposals					municipality from municipal budget.
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3.3.5.1.2 **Goal:** promotion of the creation and development of integration approaches and measures in the field of providing housing policy for self-governing local communities

Explanation:

In addition to the integration of settlements or parts of settlements with Roma population in the settlement system of Slovenia and the previously mentioned additional measures for preventing their further isolation, segregation and ghettoisation efforts must be oriented towards encouraging the municipalities with Roma population to form or develop integration approaches and measures in the field of providing local housing policy. In cooperation with the ministry responsible for the environment and spatial planning and with the Housing Fund of the Republic of Slovenia, the authority competent for national minorities shall inform the municipalities and offer them support in the creation and development of new integration approaches and measures in this field in order to provide rental dwellings as a long-term form and housing units as a temporary form of measures in the area of realising the local housing policy and for actual integration of Roma in the living environment.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Information and provision of technical support to the self-governing local communities where Roma live on the existing options for the creation and development of	Office for National Minorities in cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, the Housing Fund of the Republic of Slovenia, the Association of	– the number of realised work meetings, consultations and other forms of information and technical support,	– work meetings, consultations, etc., – reports of the Housing Fund of the Republic of Slovenia, the Ministry of the	0	– at least three (3) activities of informing and/or supporting municipalities realised per year	2017–2021	– no additional resources necessary; the tasks will be performed in the framework of the regular

<p>integration approaches and measures in the field of providing local housing policy.</p>	<p>Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia and local communities where Roma live.</p>	<p>– the number of municipalities where Roma live which have expressed their interest in cooperation and creation of integration approaches and measures in this field, – the number of formed integration approaches and measures in municipalities where Roma live</p>	<p>Environment and Spatial Planning, the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia and municipalities where Roma live, – public calls for proposals by the Housing Fund of the Republic of Slovenia, – reports on implemented projects</p>			<p>tasks of the authorities</p>
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3.3.5.1.3 Goal: overcoming the development issues of the target areas of regional policy for the provision of basic conditions for equal development of the Roma community in Slovenia

Explanation:

To provide the conditions for the arrangement of spatial issues of the Roma settlements and to improve the housing situation of Roma community members and the promotion of balanced regional development, resources for the arrangement of the basic municipal infrastructure on areas with majority population being Roma community members (Roma settlements) are being provided via specific measures or financial incentives to municipalities from the national budget. The goal of such measures of the regional policy is to achieve a more coherent regional development, because the areas where Roma community members live in densely populated areas (Roma settlements) are less developed as a rule and their arrangement means a significant financial burden to the

municipalities. The goal of financial incentives from the states is to achieve a more rapid development of areas and settlements and consequently to contribute to increased and more rapid integration of Roma community members in these areas into society.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
The implementation of financial measures for the development of areas where the Roma community lives.	– Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, – municipalities where in densely populated settlements, which are not arranged legally in terms of municipal infrastructure, the Roma community members live.	– the number of projects for the arrangement of basic municipal infrastructure	– public call for proposals, – reports on implemented projects	– at least one co-financed project by municipalities	Basic municipal infrastructure provided in all areas with Roma as majority population.	2018–2021	– state budget resources (Ministry of Economic Development and Technology): EUR 2,000,000.00 for each year in the period 2018–2021

3.3.6 PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL AND CULTURAL LIFE AND STRENGTHENING OF COMMUNITY ROLE

Almost all the applicable legislation in the field of culture and media promotes participation in social and cultural life and thus also the strengthening of the community role and, additionally, also all the strategic and programming documents under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Culture, which include the Roma community in the above regulations and document as one of the constitutionally recognised minority communities.¹² These needs and trends are also followed by all the measures in this field.

3.3.6.1 MEASURES IN THE FIELD OF PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL AND CULTURAL LIFE AND THE STRENGTHENING OF COMMUNITY ROLE

¹² Regarding the legislation in force and the strategic and programming documents, see Annex to NPUR 2017–2021.

3.3.6.1.1 Goal: creating conditions for the promotion of informative, publishing and other cultural activities of the Roma community and for the maintenance and development of the different forms of the Romani language

Explanation:

Based on Article 65 of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia and the applicable legislation and strategic and programming documents in the field of culture, the Ministry of Culture¹³ shall continue to provide the conditions for cultural activities of the Roma community in the period of NPUR 2017–2021. It shall derive from the needs expressed by Roma community members and ensure their participation in the measures intended for them. The determination of cultural needs has been established systemically through coordination and acquisition of opinions, applications and reports by the Roma community. It is necessary to consider the particular circumstances in which Roma community members live and operate in terms of culture. The measures intended for Roma community members shall be implemented in the field of culture under the programmes:

- which were recently developed in this area and are intended for the protection of special rights of the Roma community in such a way as to take into account the specific circumstances in which the members of this community live,
- which are intended to promote the preservation and learning of various forms of the Roma language and to produce literature in the Romani language, especially youth literature,
- which are intended to offer professional assistance or consultancy for more effective applications and better implementation of projects (e.g. coordination meetings about the documentation of the public call for proposals, meetings themed with individual challenges faced by the Roma community in culture, special workshops to help potential applicants in responding to public call for proposals, etc.),
- which are intended for the creators of the Roma community, who wish to become self-employed in the field of cultural creativity based on the Decree on self-employed professionals in culture (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*] No. 64/12),
- which are intended for mobilisation, motivation and activation of the functioning of individuals from vulnerable social groups for their increased social integration and sustainable enhancement of human capital and for innovative investment in their development,
- which are intended for the strengthening and expansion of reading culture in the Roma community and for providing library activity for the Roma community.

The final goal of all the above measures and approaches is to ensure quality and not forced integration while preserving cultural diversity.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources

¹³ Regarding the applicable legislation and strategic and programming documents in this area, see Annex to NPUR 2017–2021.

	for implementation						
1. Support to various cultural activities in the field of Roma community and raising awareness of the Roma culture	– Ministry of Culture, Office for Cultural Diversity and Human Rights	– the number of funded projects	– reports on project implementation	0	At least 65% of approved projects of all the projects considered, which were submitted in response to the call for proposals for the current year.	2017–2021 (annual public call for proposals, implementation of projects by the end of each year)	– state budget resources (Ministry of Culture): in the approximate amount of EUR 92,000.00 per year
2. Promotion of conservation and learning of various forms of the Romani language and promotion of the production of literature in the Romani language	– Ministry of Culture, Office for Cultural Diversity and Human Rights, other areas of the Ministry of Culture, organisations in the field of culture	– the number of funded projects	– reports on project implementation	0	At least one quarter of the projects from the public call for proposals in the field of the Roma community and 3 projects, financed from other calls for proposals in the field of culture.	2017–2021 (annual public call for proposals; implementation of projects by the end of each year)	state budget resources (Ministry of Culture): EUR 20,000.00-30,000.00 per year from the first measure shall be allocated to this measure.
3. Providing assistance and consultations to the Roma community for	– Ministry of Culture, Office for Cultural Diversity and Human Rights	– the number of extensive consultations (by phone, e-	– reports on the implementation of	0	– at least 5 per year	2017–2021 (annually, in parallel with annual public	No financial assets necessary, because

the application and implementation of projects		mail, meetings, workshops, etc.)	consultations			call for proposals)	the measure shall be carried out within regular activities of the office.
4. Stimulating creators, artists and professionals working in the field of Roma cultural activities.	– Ministry of Culture, Office for Cultural Diversity and Human Rights	– the number of specific services, – the number of funded projects	– reports on service implementation, – reports on project implementation	0	– at least 1 service per year, – at least 3 financed projects per year	2017–2021 (annually, throughout the year)	State budget resources (Ministry of Culture): approximately EUR 1,000.00-4,000.00 shall be allocated to the projects from the resources of the first measure (depending on applications).
5. Creating conditions for training and employment of Roma in culture	– Ministry of Culture, Office for Cultural Diversity and Human Rights	– the number of projects	– reports on project implementation	0	– at least 1 project per call for proposals	– from the middle of 2016 until the end of 2019	EU budget (80%) and the budget of the Republic of

							Slovenia (20%): in the period 2016–2019 the amount of EUR 3.5 million is envisaged; however, it is not yet possible to determine how much will be allocated to the project in the field of Roma community (depending on applications).
6. Promotion of multiculturalism in general libraries	– Ministry of Culture, NGO, general libraries, local communities	– the number of projects implemented in partnership between libraries and governmental and non-governmental organisations	– reports on project and programme implementation	0	– at least 2 projects per year	2017–2021 (each year)	State budget resources (Ministry of Culture and Slovenian Book Agency): EUR 1,000.00–

							2,000.00 shall be allocated from the Ministry of Culture budget and EUR 1,000.00 from the Slovenian Book Agency budget (depending on the applications).
7. Promotion of public information and awareness of the Roma communities and propagation of programme thematic areas in the Romani language	– Ministry of Culture, Media Directorate	– the number of projects financed under the public call for proposals in the field of media thematic areas	– reports on project implementation	0	This data cannot be predicted in advance as it depends on the number of applications.	2017–2021 (each year)	State budget resources (Ministry of Culture) under the public call for proposals in the field of media

3.3.7 RAISING AWARENESS AND ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

Based on the study¹⁴ produced in 2011 by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights on the situation of Roma in eleven countries of the European Union by interviewing 22,203 Roma and local people and including the data on 84,287 members of households, it has been shown that on average 46% of all respondents aged over 16 feel that in the last 12 months they were discriminated against on the basis of their ethnic origin. This survey has not included Slovenia; however, despite this, based on the fact that all the member states included in the survey have a similar situation, it can be assumed that the situation is similar in Slovenia, too. This is regularly underlined in the annual reports by the Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia and the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia and other organisations of the Roma community and the civil society. The most frequent reasons for discrimination include stereotypes and prejudices, lack of information on social groups exposed to discrimination, fear of the unknown and tendencies to overcome own sense of inferiority. Social exclusion of some groups, which can be passed on from generation to generation, is also a result of discrimination. This does not only have a negative effect on the discriminated person or group, but on the entire society, as it causes inequalities in such society and weakens it as a whole.

The measures in this field are also necessary in the period of the new document, namely through activities strengthening the Roma community to become a driving force of its development and at the same time also through activities aimed at eliminating prejudices and stereotypes by the majority of the population against Roma, particularly by public servants who encounter the Roma community members in their line of work.

3.3.7.1 MEASURES IN THE AREA OF RAISING AWARENESS AND ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

3.3.7.1.1 Goal: strengthening the institutional framework of the representation of the Roma community in Slovenia

Explanation:

In accordance with the Roma Community Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*] No. 33/07), the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia represents the interests of the Roma community in Slovenia in relation to state authorities. The operation of this umbrella organisation of the Roma community is co-financed from the state budget. The goals of co-financing include the strengthening of the institutional framework of the representation of the Roma community, provision and strengthening of the partnership with national authorities and the authorities of the self-governing local communities for a more efficient realisation of the rights of Roma community members or the improvement of their situation in society as well as the realisation of the tasks of the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia, stipulated in the Roma Community Act.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for	Financial resources
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¹⁴ FRA, 2011: *The situation of Roma in 11 EU Member States*, an extensive survey including Italy, Czech Republic, Poland, Greece, France, Portugal, Hungary, Slovakia, Spain, Bulgaria and Romania. Slovenia has not been included in the survey. Available on <http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2012/situation-roma-11-eu-member-states-survey-results-glance> (3. 5. 2017).

	partners, responsible for implementation					implementation	
Financial support to the operation of the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Office for National Minorities, – Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia 	extent of programme implementation by the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia in an individual year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – regular contacts between the Office for National Minorities and Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia – annual work programme and financial perspective of the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia, – annual reports of the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia based on co-financing contract 	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – at least 4 sessions of the council in an individual year, – at least 5 implemented activities of the council in an individual year, – at least 5 responses of the council to the current challenges of the Roma community in an individual year, – participation of the council in at least 10 local and national meetings 	2017–2021	state budget (the funds provided annually in the financial perspectives of the Office for National Minorities): approximately EUR 112,000.00 per year.

3.3.7.1.2 Goal: support for the activities for the improvement of the situation of Roma and for recognising the Roma community as a constituent part of Slovenian society and to the activities directed at the prevention of discrimination and elimination of prejudices and stereotypes against Roma locally with a focus on the Roma women, girls and young people

Explanation:

Based on actual needs on the ground in local environments where Roma live, it is necessary to continue to support the active operation of the organisations of the Roma community striving for the Roma community to be recognised as a constituent part of Slovenian society. The activities of the organisations of the Roma community are directed particularly at improving the situation of Roma, their increased and accelerated integration in the environments where they live, raising awareness among the majority and the Roma population of the existence, culture, languages and habits of the Roma groups living in Slovenia and the fight against discrimination. Some organisations also direct their activities towards the representation of Roma community members in finding solutions to the unresolved local and national challenges (e.g. concrete social challenges of families in the local environment, highlighting the inadequacies of the current legislation based on the actual situation on the ground etc.). The activities will be directed especially to promotion of the integration of Roma community members (especially children, women and young people) into the education system, activation for the approximation to the labour market and the development of new development programmes and in the promotion of employment as a value, in the fight against the use of hate speech, raising awareness of the majority population (especially children and young people and the employees of the public administration and the judicial authorities) of the presence of the Roma community, its culture and linguistic composition and the importance for the Slovenian space, in raising awareness and training and offering support to Roma community members in the councils of the self-governing local communities, members of societies and other important representatives in the Roma community who work for the benefit of the communities, for the provision of professional support and help to societies in applying to calls for proposals in different areas and to other areas important for accelerated integration of Roma community members with improved quality.

The goal of the co-financing includes strengthening of active operation of the Roma community organisations and active inclusion and support of the Roma community organisations for other measures of the NPUR 2017–2021 or measures of the self-governing local communities' authorities in local environments.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Support for the activities for the improvement of the situation of Roma	– Office for National Minorities and selected providers (call for proposals),	– annual call for proposals implemented, – the scope	– NPUR 2010–2015, – previous calls for proposals by	0	– at least 3 implemented activities of the Roma	2017–2021	– state budget (funds provided annually in the financial

<p>community members and for the recognition of the Roma community as an integral part of Slovenian society and to the activities directed at the prevention of discrimination and elimination of prejudices and stereotypes against Roma at the local level with the emphasis on Roma women, girls and young people.</p>	<p>– ministries and other national authorities and authorities of the self-governing local communities, – Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia, – other non-governmental organisations and expert institutions</p>	<p>of implemented activities of the applied programmes/projects of the organisations of the Roma community in an individual year</p>	<p>the Office in support of organisations of the Roma community, – annual reports by the organisations of the Roma community based on the previous calls for proposals by the Office in support of organisations of the Roma community, – monitoring of the implemented activities of the Roma community organisations in the period of the NPUR 2010–2015, – reports of the Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia and the Advocate of</p>		<p>community organisations in individual years according to the actual needs of Roma community members at the local level and regarding the applied programme/project</p>	<p>perspectives of the Office for National Minorities), – approximately EUR 200,000 in the period 2017–2021</p>
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			<p>the Principle of Equality,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – recommendatio ns by international organisations to Slovenia upon various checks (ICERD, CEDAW, CRC, ICCPR, ICESCR, ECRI, etc.), – reports from the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia and other organisations of the Roma community, – reports of non-governmental organisations – media reporting, etc. 				
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3.3.7.1.3 Goal: to improve the capabilities of public servants working within their competence with Roma community members

Explanation:

In the next period of implementation of the measures to improve the situation of Roma community members or the provision of equal opportunities, it is necessary to strive for strengthening of the dialogue and partnership relations between the Roma community, the local community and institutions which in the framework of their operation meet Roma community members, and to establish dialogue where it has not yet been established. The goal of this measure is above all to improve the ability of public servants to communicate with Roma community members who they meet in their work, to raise awareness of the prejudices and stereotypes against Roma in the relevant environment and to inform public servants of their own prejudices and stereotypes and search for practical solutions for specific challenges in an environment of both the public servants and Roma.

By implementing this measure, the efforts via a specific training of public servants will be directed at introducing a solid basis for the understanding of all the characteristics that the work with the Roma community brings to individual public servants. Considering the goals of the above all harmonised and enhanced cooperation of all the relevant institutions locally and based on the experiences of the police work in the community, it will also be necessary to upgrade the present dialogue between all the subjects to achieve a basic understanding of the special features in the work with the representatives of the Roma community, an appropriate response to individual problem situations and their successful resolution. Public servants will obtain basic information and knowledge on anti-discrimination, on the normative regulation and on the importance of consistent implementation of positive legislation, on the protection of human rights, on the knowledge of stereotypes and on prejudice against the Roma community. They will also learn about the ways and forms of approaches to tackle individual problem situations, which are most common in the work with the Roma community. The training also give emphasis to the management of various conflicts which public servants encounter in their work with the Roma community. A Roma community member from the environment of the public servants will actively participate in the implementation of each training session and he/she will try to find possible practical solutions to the challenges regarding the situation in the environment based on their own experience and in communication with the trainees.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Training of public servants who meet the Roma community in the framework of their capacities.	– the Police and Office for National Minorities, – ministries and other national authorities and authorities of the self-governing local communities, – representatives of the	– the number of training sessions, – the number of workshops, – the number of	– training events, – workshops	0	– presumably 5 training events per year or as necessary	2017–2021	The state budget (funds provided annually in the financial perspective of the Ministry of the Interior

	Roma community, – public servants who work with the Roma community members in the framework of their capacities.	participants, – evaluations					and/or the Police and the Office for National Minorities (travel expenses for 1 external participant – representative of the Roma community) ¹⁵ are estimated to approximately EUR 450 per year and they will be provided within the financial perspective of the Office for National Minorities).
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3.3.7.1.3.1 Sub-goal: raising awareness of police officers and other police workers for work in the Roma community

Explanation:

Education of the police officers for work in a multicultural society is important to provide them with knowledge, experience and appropriate work methods necessary for a professional approach in the implementation of police tasks and activities in the areas with Roma settlements and with representatives of the

¹⁵ Funding will be provided (material costs – travel costs or potential other costs) for one external training participant–representative of the Roma community who participates in the final part of each training course. Cooperation of the Roma representative at the training event for public servants is important so that the participants obtain experience from examples and an insight into the perspective of how the Roma perceive the role of a public servant in the implementation of their tasks. Such approach is important for better elimination of stereotypes and prejudices and the issues around the dilemmas which can be directly presented to the participants by the representative of the Roma community.

Roma community. Negative prejudices of the police against a group or individuals may cause major problems in the implementation of basic police tasks. Negative prejudices constitute, both short and long term, a barrier in the construction of a model for a professional attitude of every police officer in the implementation of procedures in the Roma community taking into account strict compliance with the general principles for the performance of police in accordance with the Police Tasks and Powers Act, the attitude of police officers to customers in accordance with the Rules of the Police (*Pravila policije*), the Code of Police Ethics (*Kodeksom policijske etike*) and the Catalogue of Enforcement Proceedings Standards (*Katalog standardov policijskih postopkov*). The training sessions for the police officers will refresh and upgrade the established programme Training of Police Officers for Work in Multi-Cultural Society (*Usposabljanje policistov za delo v večkulturni družbi*).

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Education and training of Police employees under the programme Awareness about stereotypes, prejudice management, and discrimination prevention in a multicultural community <i>(Zavedanje stereotipov, obvladovanje predsodkov ter preprečevanje diskriminacije v multikulturni</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Police, – representatives of the Roma community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the number of training sessions, – the number of participants, – evaluations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – training events, – workshops, – education 	0	– presumably 5 training events per year or as necessary	2017–2021	– state budget (funds provided annually in the financial perspectives of the Ministry of the Interior/Police)

skupnosti).							
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3.3.7.1.4 Goal: implementation of police work in the community

Explanation:

The goal of the police work in the community is to strengthen the partnership with the local community and to advocate an effective resolution of various security needs. Such a partnership enables information to be retrieved for a timely detection of safety issues and their resolution. The implementation of police work and preventive activities in the community is focused on the direct work of the police with the Roma community and the resolution of individual problem issues together with other entities. In the context of its operation, the police will strengthen the implementation of preventive activities in the Roma community. In this process, it actively cooperates as an interface and it also influences the dynamics of the functioning of several consultative bodies, expert and multidisciplinary teams at the local level, where the representatives of the Roma community are also included. The direct work of these teams has major effects on the prevention of all problem situations and for the establishment and implementation of the measures upon detection of all the problem situations and violations of the positive legislation.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Implementation of police work in the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the Police, – local communities, – representatives of the institutions dealing with Roma issues, – representatives of governmental and non-governmental organisations, – representatives of civil initiatives and the majority population, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the number of implemented preventive activities, – the number of meetings of the consultative bodies, – the number of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – work in the consultative bodies, – consultancy and warning, – implementation of preventive projects and other activities, – education of children and 	/	/	2017–2021	– state budget (funds provided annually in the financial perspectives of the Ministry of the Interior/Police)

	– Office for National Minorities,	expert teams' meetings	adults, – informal socialising and integration				
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3.3.8 MEASURES AND APPROACHES AT LOCAL LEVEL

In terms of the provision of comprehensive measures and approaches at the local level, the following goals shall be pursued in the context of the NPUR 2017–2021:

- promotion of social integration and reduction of the poverty of vulnerable groups, including and especially the Roma, which is possible and provided in the form of comprehensive measures and approaches at the local level in the context of the rural development programme for 2014–2020,
- integration and cooperation of the competent institutions and organisations, identification of best practices and their reasonable transfer to other environments as well as the integration of Roma community members at the local level, which is necessary for ensuring an increased and accelerated social integration of Roma community members in the local environment,
- strengthening the dialogue, connection and cooperation between the authorities of the self-governing local communities, associations of municipalities and government authorities.

3.3.8.1 **Goal: to promote social integration, reduction of poverty and rural development Rural Development Programme 2014–2020)**

Explanation:

Measures in the field of local development managed by the community (CLLD) are extremely important for the development of both rural and urban areas with specific development needs, problems and opportunities that require a different development approach.¹⁶ CLLD shall be implemented in the framework of the priority axis of the European Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–2020, i.e. Social integration and reduction of the risk of poverty, priority investments; Investment in the context of the strategies for local development managed by the community The bottom-up principle enables residents to determine priorities and developmental goals and decide on local development.

In the context of the measure *Support for LEADER local development (community-led local development)* a sub-measure of *Support for implementing operations under the community-led local development strategy* has been designed in the context of which, based on a public call from a local action group

¹⁶ Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020, pp. 180-183 and 245. Available on: http://www.eu-skladi.si/sl/dokumenti/kljucni-dokumenti/op_ang_final_web.pdf.

(LAG), grants will be allocated to co-finance the costs incurred in the implementation of the operations by LAG or local actors. This sub-measure does not define operations and types of measures for implementation in detail, since this type of operation depends on the goals defined in individual local development strategies (LDS). The LDS was prepared by local partnerships and they are more flexible than other approaches, so the selection of operations which will be subject to co-financing is also more flexible. Operations selected by LAG based on clear selection criteria defined in an LDS have to pursue the goals of the LDS which derive from the needs of the local area and have to pursue those thematic areas of action which LAG defined in the strategy as essential for rural development in the area of the LAG. The supported operations will particularly pursue the following four thematic areas of action: job creation, development of basic services, environmental protection and nature conservation, and better inclusion of the young, women and other vulnerable groups (e.g. the unemployed, Roma, the elderly). They will thus focus on challenges such as social inclusion, climate change, care for the environment, youth unemployment, development of local basic services and reducing differences between urban and rural areas. Proposals for operations are based on a bottom-up approach, so many innovative approaches or operations are expected which will contribute to the comprehensive development of the local environment with the activation of local potential.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Support for the implementation of operations in accordance with the community-led local development strategy of Support for LEADER local development (community-led local development: sub-measure Support for implementing operations under the community-led local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – LAG Dolenjska and Bela krajina (LAG DBK), – LAG Posavje, – LAG Goričko 2020, – LAG Pri dobrih ljudeh (At good people), – LAG Po poteh dediščine od Turjaka do Kolpe (Along the heritage trails from Turjak to Kolpa), – LAG STIK (“contact”), – regional development agencies, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the number of projects to be intended for greater social integration of (including) Roma, – impact indicators set out in the operation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – individual local development strategies (Local development strategy LAG DBK, Local development strategy LAG Posavje, Local development strategy LAG Goričko 2020, Local development 	0	At least one project intended for increased social integration of (including) Roma based on individual local development strategies (presumably at least 6 projects all together from all the LAG areas).	2017–2021 (during the whole period of the NPUR)	– public calls by LAG: resources from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Regional Development Fund, state budget resources

<p><i>development strategy)</i></p>	<p>– municipalities in the area of individual LAGs, – organisations who work in the local environment, including the Roma community, – Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food and Ministry of Economic Development and Technology.</p>		<p>strategy LAG Pri dobrih ljudeh, Local development strategy LAG Po poteh dediščine od Turjaka do Kolpe, Local development strategy LAG STIK), – public call by individual LAG, – Rural Development Programme of the Republic of Slovenia 2014–2020 – Implementation plan of the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014–</p>				
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			2020				
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3.3.8.2 Goal: strengthening of the dialogue and cooperation by all relevant entities for the improvement of the situation of Roma community members and their greater inclusion in society

Explanation:

Despite solid legal bases in terms of commitments and the long-term open cooperation with all the Roma organisations and other organisations of civil society, no structured and long-term cooperation between the stakeholders in this field has been established, which consequently causes fragmentation (and sometimes duplication) of activities. In practice, the different interests of individuals and groups often hinder the flow of information or even cause incorrect information to surface. The focus on policies which do not bring effective solutions for the improvement of the situation of Roma community members or their greater social inclusion is also characteristic. Proposals and initiatives are often considered separately; whereas a more integrated approach and treatment would be more appropriate, especially at the local level where the core of the challenges most often lies. To improve the methods for monitoring the development and the impact of actions under the NPUR 2017–2021, the national consultation process should be further strengthened with the establishment of a single national platform for Roma. It is necessary to establish an open and structured consultation process, which will enable all interested groups the place and opportunities for discussion and proposals and initiatives to improve the situation of Roma. It is necessary to provide a forum for the exchange of experience, expertise and best practice, to define and establish synergies between activities, projects and politics and build on the current know-how to improve and strengthen the implementation and monitoring of the NPUR 2017–2021.

As an additional measure for the monitoring of the implementation of the NPUR 2017–2021, a national platform for the Roma is being established based on a restricted call of the European Commission to support National Roma platforms – JUST/2015/RDIS/AG/NRP2, as a complementary mechanism of consultation and participation of Roma community organisations and other interested public in the integration of Roma community members in society and community development. The establishment of the National Roma Platform will stimulate and enable dialogue and the exchange of experience and it will also promote joint and mutual learning and exchange of best practice. The newly established platform, which will include Roma, their organisations and associations, other civil society organisations, local authorities, scientific institutions, national authorities and other relevant entities, will signify an upgrade of the current structured dialogue between the Roma community and the authorities of the self-governing local communities, which has already begun via the governmental commission for the protection of the Roma community and it will also enable a wide framework for the exchange of views and experiences and for the debates on all the relevant issues and matters related to Roma community members in individual environments. Particular attention will be given to the integration of young Roma and Roma women. The know-how of everyone involved in the new platform will enable continuous monitoring of the implementation of NPUR 2017–2021 and thus enable a comprehensive monitoring of the implementation of measures both locally and nationally (together with the legislative framework). The conclusions and major identified topics, issues and challenges will be submitted by the platform for discussion and further resolution to the Government Commission for the Protection of the Roma Ethnic Community, which in accordance with its respective powers will submit proposals to the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, if necessary, or propose viable solutions. In the context of the operation of the new National Roma

Platform, structured activities will be undertaken which are intended for the recognition of challenges in individual environments and space and opportunities for open debate and searching for most appropriate solutions.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
The National Roma Platform and its activities – strengthening of the consultation process in this area in Slovenia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Office for National Minorities, – ministries and other national authorities and authorities of the self-governing local communities, – Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia and other Roma community organisations, – Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia, – Advocate of the Principle of Equality, – other non-governmental organisations and expert institutions, – other civil society organisations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – established platform, – the number of activities foreseen in the project, – the range of implemented activities foreseen in the project, – evaluation of the activities performed in the framework of the platform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies, – European Commission call JUST/2015/RDIS/AG/NRP2 and European Commission call REC-RDIS-NRCP-AG-2016 	0	At least 9 activities as foreseen in the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – first project: August 2016– July 2017, duration: 12 months, – continuation of the project: August 2017– July 2018, duration: 12 months), – continuation of the project also foreseen in the period: August 2018– July 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – EU funds (95%): – state budget (5%) (funds provided in the financial perspectives of the Office for National Minorities), – value of the project in the first year: EUR 64,860.31, – value of the project in the second year: EUR 68,385.00

3.3.8.3 Goal: creating connection between and cooperation of the institutions for the provision of an increased and expedited social integration of Roma community members in the local environment and the creation of integrated solutions and measures at the local level to provide synergy effects

Explanation:

In the framework of the project of the National Roma Platform, which was launched in 2016 by the authority competent for national minorities as a national contact point for the integration of Roma, it has been established based on the current experience of the institutions working in the environments where Roma live in relation to the provision of effective approaches in the field of social integration of Roma community members in the environments where they live that these approaches must be harmonised, that the measures and solutions to open challenges must be sought in cooperation and integration of all the relevant stakeholders and that the Roma population or the representatives of the Roma community, who will help create and later realise the measures in practice or environments where they are implemented, must also be included in the formation of solutions. Integrated measures and approaches at local level may thus be created through the establishment of multidisciplinary teams in the local environment (e.g. at the level of individual self-governing local communities). Multidisciplinary teams represent a form of work in local environments, which has already been established in some places and has brought very good results (e.g. multidisciplinary team working with Roma in Ljubljana, safety panels on issues related to safety in these areas). Such teams are necessary for the provision of the necessary cooperation between the establishments and organisations, for efficient information flow and for the provision of their clarity and accuracy and especially for a comprehensive treatment of the open challenges related to questions of the social inclusion of the Roma and coordinated, comprehensive and inclusive approach to the creation of the necessary solutions or measures to achieve better synergy effects. The institution implementing the measure shall promote the establishment of teams in all local communities where Roma live in cooperation with the listed partners; however, this will be done gradually, at least three teams being expected by the end of 2018 and at least 20 teams by the end of 2021. Self-governing local communities should be coordinating these teams.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Promoting the establishment of multidisciplinary teams in the local communities where Roma live through activities of the	The Office for National Minorities in cooperation with the self-governing local communities where Roma live, competent ministries, various	– the number of established teams, – the number of local communities where interest	– correspondence or regular communication with self-governing local communities	0	– at least 3 teams by the end of 2018, – teams established in all local communities	2017–2021 (during the whole period of the NPUR)	– in 2017 and 2018, the assets provided in the financial perspectives of the Office for National

<p>National Roma Platform.</p>	<p>institutions and organisations working in the local environment and representatives of local Roma communities or representatives of the organisations of Roma communities.</p>	<p>or willingness has been expressed for the establishment of such teams,</p>	<p>where Roma live, – work meetings, – information and reports by self-governing local communities where Roma live, – information and reports by the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, – information in the context of the work by the Commission for the integration of the Roma community under the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, – activities of the National Roma Platform</p>		<p>where Roma live and where the need to strengthen the cooperation and integration of the competent institutions by the end of 2021 has been expressed (at least 20 teams established)</p>	<p>Minorities in the context of the National Roma Platform project (SIFOROMA and SIFOROMA2)</p>
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3.3.8.4 **Goal:** support for the establishment and improvement of the local communities' approaches in the integration of Roma community members

Explanation:

On 8 May 2017, the first meeting took place between the representatives of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the mayors and/or representatives of the municipalities where Roma live, which was convened and hosted by the Secretary General of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in cooperation with the authority competent for national minorities. The purpose of the meeting was to speak honestly about the challenges and proposed solutions as seen by the mayors of the municipalities where Roma live and/or to offer the representatives of the municipalities a chance to represent the most pressing challenges in direct communication with the representatives of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, and to explain where in the exercising of their competences they would need assistance from the state and in what form, what commitments they expect from the Government of the Republic of Slovenia or its bodies and what commitments the municipalities themselves are willing to accept. During the discussion, the debate continued about the competences of the state and municipalities in this area, about the open challenges faced by municipalities in local environments where Roma live, and especially on how to establish better cooperation and ensure better integration of institutions to enable the possibility of finding comprehensive solutions to the challenges in this area. In the context of the discussion, common commitments were made, especially regarding the strengthening of the integration and cooperation by all competent local and national institutions. One of the commitments was also to define the knowledge, positive experiences and best practices from Prekmurje and south-eastern Slovenia that bring successful approaches in integration of Roma community members, and to find the forms and methods to transmit such practices and experiences to those environments, where deficits can be detected and where the local communities have expressed the need for and interest in this.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Identification, promotion and transfer of the already conquered knowledge, positive experience and examples of best practice to the environments which	– The Office for National Minorities in cooperation with the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, the self-governing local communities where Roma live, competent	– the number of local communities which have detected deficits, and expressed the interest or need,	– regular communication with self-governing local communities where Roma live, – work meetings,	0	– at least 3 examples of a successful knowledge transfer, positive experiences or examples of best practice in the approaches of	2017-2021 (during the whole period of the NPUR)	– in 2017 and 2018, the assets provided in the financial perspectives of the Office for National Minorities in

<p>detected deficits and expressed the needs of local communities.</p>	<p>ministries, various institutions and organisations working in the local environment and the representatives of the local Roma communities or the representatives of the organisations of Roma communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the number of examples of defined knowledge, positive experience or examples of best practices in the local communities, – the quantity of transferred knowledge, positive experience or examples of best practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – information and reports by self-governing local communities where Roma live, – information and reports by the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, – information in the context of the work by the Commission for the integration of the Roma community under the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, – activities of the National Roma Platform, – various projects implemented in the local communities 		<p>local communities in the field of integration of the Roma community members</p>	<p>the context of regular work tasks</p>
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3.3.8.5 Goal: achieving more effective integration of Roma community members in the local environment

Explanation:

In the frame of the National Roma Platform project, which was launched in 2016 by the authority competent for national minorities and which will continue in 2017 and 2018, the forming of concrete and realistic action plans for the integration of Roma will be pursued along with the already established process of consultation and the inclusive approach and work methods of municipalities where Roma live, whereby these plans must be adopted to the situation in individual municipalities. The funds for the implementation of such activities will be provided in the financial perspectives of the authority competent for national minorities. Based on the current findings in the context of the National Roma Platform activities in 2016 and in the first half of 2017, it is necessary to strengthen the local consultations and, based on key challenges, to define examples of best practice and design concrete and realistic steps to effective solutions, both directly feasible as well as the more complex ones which would need a longer period of time to be implemented and which also depend on other national competent authorities. The goals of the measure include the formation of concrete proposals for solutions based on the current experience in social integration of Roma community members at the local level, the definition of the most urgent steps to address the defined problems and the determination of foundations for further close cooperation among all the relevant stakeholders.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Encouraging self-governing local communities to form concrete and realistic action plans for the integration of Roma, adapted to the situation in individual local communities.	– the Office for National Minorities in cooperation with self-governing local communities where Roma live, the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, local institutions and organisations and competent ministries	– the number of designed local action plans, – the number of amended already adopted local action plans, – the number of municipalities that have	– NPUR 2017–2021, – already adopted local action plans, programmes and strategies, – information and reports by municipalities where Roma live,	– 6 municipalities with adopted programmes or local action plans	– at least 12 municipalities with adopted programmes or local action plans by the end of the NPUR 2017–2021 period, and – at least 8 municipalities with adopted sets of	2017-2021 (during the whole period of the NPUR)	– in 2017 and 2018, the assets provided in the financial perspectives of the Office for National Minorities in the context of the National Roma Platform project

		expressed an interest and willingness to design local action plans,			measures in this area		(SIFOROMA and SIFOROMA2)
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3.3.8.6 **Goal:** to strengthen the role and support the activities of the representatives of the Roma community in the councils of the self-governing local communities

Explanation:

In compliance with the act governing local self-government, political representation of the Roma community has been provided in 20 municipalities where Roma live; and in compliance with the act regulating the situation of the Roma community, these municipalities also established a working body for the monitoring of the situation of the Roma community, the member of which under their function also represents the Roma community in the council of the self-governing local community. Despite the established legal bases for the provision of local political representation of the Roma community, both municipalities which have established this political representation, as well as the representatives of the Roma community and the civil society organisation point out that these representatives lack the education to perform their mission in a quality and effective manner and to make a constructive contribution to the regulation of the Roma community situation in the local community and to the decision-making on the matters relating to the entire local community. Based on the findings, trainings in the context of the NPUR 2017–2021 will be more systematic and support will be offered to the work of the representatives of the Roma community in the municipal councils, namely in several ways and through more leverage and channels: promoting the activities of the Roma community organisations (associations of societies), through the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia and the activities of the project by the National Roma Platform.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
Training and the provision of expert support for the strengthening of the role and the performance of tasks	– The Office for National Minorities in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Administration, the Association of	– the number of implemented trainings, – satisfaction of the representatives	– NPUR 2017–2021, – information and reports by municipalities where Roma	0	– at least 3 training events per year	2017–2021 (during the whole period of the NPUR)	A combination of activities: funds provided in the financial

<p>by representatives of the Roma community in the councils of self-governing local communities</p>	<p>Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia, the Forum of Roma Councillors of Slovenia, the competent ministries and government offices and self-governing local communities with a political representation of the Roma community</p>	<p>of the Roma community in municipality councils with the implemented training, – satisfaction of the municipalities with the work of the representatives of the Roma community in the municipal councils</p>	<p>live, – information and reports by the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, – information and reports by the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia, associations of societies and the Forum of Roma Councillors of Slovenia</p>			<p>perspectives of the Office for National Minorities (funds allocated to the activities of the Roma community organisations , funds allocated to the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia, funds of the National Roma Platform project.</p>
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3.3.8.7 Goal: strengthening of the dialogue, integration and cooperation among the representatives of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the representatives of the self-governing local communities where Roma live

Explanation:

On 8 May 2017, the first meeting took place between the representatives of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the mayors and/or representatives of the municipalities where Roma live, which was convened and hosted by the Secretary General of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in cooperation with the authority competent for national minorities. The purpose of the meeting was to speak honestly about the challenges and proposed solutions as seen by the mayors of the municipalities where Roma live and/or to offer the representatives of the municipalities a chance to represent the most pressing challenges in direct communication with the representatives of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, and to explain where in the exercising of their competences they would need assistance from the state and in what form, what commitments they expect from the Government of the

Republic of Slovenia or its bodies and what commitments the municipalities themselves are willing to accept. During the discussion, the debate continued about the competences of the state and municipalities in this area, about the open challenges faced by municipalities in local environments where Roma live, and especially on how to establish better cooperation and ensure better integration of institutions to enable the possibility of finding comprehensive solutions to the challenges in this area. In the context of the discussion, common commitments were made, especially regarding the strengthening of the integration and cooperation by all competent local and national institutions. As one of the commitments, an agreement on the establishment of a more regular dialogue in this area was formed among the high representatives of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (state secretaries of the ministries and government offices) and the representatives of municipalities and its associations. The established form of dialogue will continue at the same level and in certain intervals throughout the period of the NPUR 2017–2021.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
The establishment of a continuous dialogue between the representatives of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the representatives of the self-governing local communities where Roma live.	– Secretariat-General of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in cooperation with the Office for National Minorities, state secretaries of the ministries and government offices, Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia and self-governing local communities where Roma live	– the number of implemented joint meetings, – the number of implemented thematic or narrower meetings	– NPUR 2017-2021, – information, letters and recommendations by municipalities and their associations, – the needs in individual regions/municipalities, – local action plans	1	– at least 1 meeting per year	2017–2021 (during the whole period of the NPUR)	– no additional resources necessary, the measure will be implemented in the context of regular work tasks

II. IMPLEMENTATION

1. FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION

Republic of Slovenia, the European Cohesion Policy and social integration – Roma

Slovenia decided to follow the opportunities offered by the new legal framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds and to take full advantage of them. Despite having two cohesion regions, Slovenia decided to prepare one operational programme for several funds (Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020; OP 2014–2020¹⁷) to be financed from the Cohesion Policy (CP). Thus in one the OP 2014–2020 combines all the development challenges. From the outset, Slovenia was a staunch advocate of the integrated approach and result-oriented Cohesion Policy. Therefore, it is not surprising that Slovenia uses all the mentioned options (territorial targeting, local development lead by the community and sustainable development in urban areas).

Roma as a target group are exclusively addressed under the priority axis no. 9 of the OP – *Social inclusion and poverty reduction*, with special emphasis on the largest priority investment under *Active inclusion, including with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability*, which is the first out of five under this priority axis. There are three specific goals in the above priority axis to be achieved through measures: (i) to establish an integrated model of social activation, (ii) empower target groups to bring them closer to the labour market, and (iii) to prevent the slide into poverty or social exclusion and reduce health inequalities. In the last goal mentioned (in addition to any other), Roma will be one of the main target groups. All the activities in the framework of this priority investment shall be financed from the European Social Fund.

One of the priority investments in the framework of priority axis no. 9 includes *Investments under CLLD strategies*, which will continue and be financed from the European Regional Development Fund. The European Regional Development Fund will support the activities in all areas of the local action groups (LAG) and in settlements with over 10,000 residents, except in urban settlements of urban municipalities that will receive support under the ITI mechanism. For the implementation of local development strategies prepared by LAG a combination of support from the three funds will be used, namely the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, the European Regional Development Fund and European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, so that each fund will contribute to the achievement of the goals of individual programmes. Local development strategies will include all three funds if all the eligibility criteria are met and if special needs and challenges in individual LAG area are addressed. This will ensure an integrated approach to the tackling of local development challenges.

Roma are explicitly defined as the target group even in the context of horizontal principles of the OP – *Equal opportunities and non-discrimination*. Equal opportunities and non-discrimination will be taken into account horizontally at the level of the entire OP, regardless of the various personal circumstances, such as age, disability, race and ethnic origin, religion or belief, sexual orientation, etc.), namely the inclusion of the non-discrimination and equal opportunities

¹⁷ Available on: http://www.eu-skladi.si/sl/dokumenti/kljucni-dokumenti/op_ang_final_web.pdf (3 May 2017).

principle, and vertically, especially by means of measure in the framework of the priority axis 8 (Promoting employment and supporting transnational labour mobility), 9 (Social inclusion and poverty reduction) and 10 (Knowledge, skills and lifelong learning to enhance employability).

Republic of Slovenia – the state budget in municipal budgets

In addition to the resources from the European Structural and Investment Funds, Slovenia will provide the financial resources for the implementation of the NPUR 2017–2021 from the state budget, and for the measures related to the original jurisdiction of the self-governing local communities, these resources must be provided by municipalities in their budgets.

2. TIME FRAME FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION

The NPUR 2017–2021 will be implemented between 2017 and 2021 or until the end of the absorption of funds from the European financial perspectives 2014–2020 where necessary. Nevertheless, it should be noted that some measures were already launched in 2016, which is indicated next to each measure. Some measures are designed for the entire period and others are more short-term and they will have been completed before the end of the programme period, which is clearly stated next to each measure.

3. HOLDERS OF MEASURES AND PARTICIPANTS

Since this is a national programme of measures adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, the holders of measures include competent ministries and government offices in cooperation with self-governing local communities and their associations and other establishments and organisations dealing with the topic addressed in this programming document. The holders of measures and participants in their implementation are defined for each measure.

III. MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ROMA INTEGRATION STRATEGY FOR THE PERIOD 2017–2021

Realisation of the national programme of measures will be systematically monitored on an annual basis and in cooperation with all the relevant authorities and institutions and civil society. The realisation of the measures shall be reported annually in the framework of the preparation of the reports by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on the situation of the Roma community, and based on the findings, amendments to the NPUR 2017–2021 shall be proposed if necessary.

1. MECHANISMS AND MEASURES FOR THE MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NPUR 2017–2021 AND CONSEQUENTLY THE PROGRESS IN THE INTEGRATION OF ROMA IN SLOVENIA

1.1 **Goal:** transparency and consistency of the policies and measures and the provision of improved efficiency for the achievement of improving the situation of Roma community members and their increased integration into society

Explanation:

In order to improve the methods for monitoring the implementation and the impact of the NPUR measures, it is necessary to ensure transparency and consistency of the policies and measures and to ensure improved efficiency for improving the situation of the Roma community members and their increased integration into society. The realisation of the programme of measures must be systematically monitored on an annual basis and with the evaluation of the measures amendments should be proposed if necessary. There will be several ways to achieve this goal. Based on practice in the preparation phase of this programme, the provision of effective monitoring of the programme, proper cooperation and integration of competent authorities will be established. For the purpose of preparing this programme, the competent national authorities appointed contact persons of an individual authority to coordinate the work of the authority and they cooperated with the authority competent for national minorities. This improved communication and the flow of information and the effectiveness of cooperation in the development of the programme of measures.

Despite this, it was possible to find weaknesses in the coordination or communication and the flow of information in major departmental authorities, which is why for the purpose of monitoring the implementation of the measures, it is necessary to **establish coordinators at the ministries and governmental services**, which will have the competences and organisational power for effective coordination and monitoring. To this end, it is necessary to provide coordinators at the level of state secretaries. Coordinators will pursue coordination tasks for the purposes of the implementation and monitoring of the NPUR 2017–2021 and for cooperation with the authority competent for national minorities and they will cooperate in the preparation of the annual report on the implementation of the measures from the programme and its evaluation. In addition to coordinators at the level of state secretaries, each ministry and

government office will appoint a contact person among public servants, who will represent a regular link to the authority competent for national minorities and who will help the coordinators in individual departments. The coordinator for the needs of monitoring the realisation of the NPUR 2017–2021 measures, will be appointed by the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia.

The goal will be attempted to be realised through mechanisms established by law and additionally through strengthened national consultation with the establishment of a single National Roma Platform to be coordinated by the authority competent for national minorities as a national contact point for Roma integration. It is necessary to establish an open and structured consultation procedure which will enable all interested groups and especially at the local level the space and opportunities to discuss and propose and give initiatives for the improvement of the situation of Roma. It is necessary to provide a forum for the exchange of experience, expertise and best practice, to define and establish synergies between existing activities, projects and policies and to build on the current know-how in order to improve and strengthen the implementation and monitoring of the NPUR 2017–2021.

In addition to the measure for the establishment of coordinators, the implementation of the NPUR 2017–2021 in accordance with the statutory task will also be monitored by the **Government Commission for the Protection of the Roma Ethnic Community**. Based on Article 6 of the Roma Community Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*] No. 33/07) the Government Commission for the Protection of the Roma Ethnic Community has been established, which in compliance with the above act monitors the implementation of the programme of measures from paragraph one of Article 6 of the same Act and performs the following tasks:

- monitors the implementation of the programme of measures from paragraph one of Article 6 of the ZRomS-1,
- monitors the realisation of the constitutional obligations and legal provisions of the Republic of Slovenia, referring to the Roma Community,
- forms propositions and initiatives regarding the protection of the Roma Community which are sent to the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and to individual ministries for the acquisition of their official opinions,
- enables the exchange of opinions between representatives of the Roma Community, self-governing local communities and public authorities on all issues regarding the situation of the Roma Community,
- discusses current issues related to realising special rights of the Roma Community.

Based on paragraph four of Article 4 of the Roma Community Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [*Uradni list RS*] No. 33/07), the Government of the Republic of Slovenia must annually report to the National Assembly on the realisation of the legal obligations to the Roma community. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall prepare the report based on the reports from individual public authorities, authorities of the self-governing local communities where the Roma community live, the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia and other authorities. The report shall also include information on the implementation of the NPUR 2017–2021. Before the submission to the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, the report shall be discussed and approved by the Government Commission of the Republic of Slovenia for the Protection of the Roma Community.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing	Effect	Data sources	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for	Financial
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	body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	indicators	and methods			implementation	resources
<p>1. Network of coordinators at the level of state secretaries, appointed by the competent ministries and governmental services.</p> <p>2. Coordinator appointed by the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Office for National Minorities, – ministries and other national authorities, – Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the appointed coordinators within all the competent ministries and government offices, – efficient integration and cooperation of authorities and enabled information flow, – efficient coordination in competent public authorities, – the appointed coordinator in the framework of the Roma Community Council of the Republic of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the network of coordinators (state secretaries of ministries and government offices) and contact persons (public servants) – network meetings, – minutes of network meetings, – meetings with the coordinator of the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia, 	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – within one month after the adoption of the NPUR 2017–2021, all the coordinators and contact persons at the ministries competent for the implementation of the NPUR 2017–2021 measures shall be appointed, – within one month after the adoption of the NPUR 2017–2021 NPUR the coordinator of the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia shall be appointed, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1 month after the NPUR 2017–2021 for the appointment of coordinators and contact persons; – continuous cooperation with the established network with a view to implement and monitor the realisation of the NPUR 2017–2021 (for the entire period of the NPUR 2017–2021), 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – in the context of the powers and work tasks and financial perspectives of the ministries and government offices, – in the context of the work plan and the financial perspectives of the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia

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Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
3. The functioning of the Government Commission for the Protection of the Roma Ethnic Community and monitoring of the realisation of the NPUR 2017–2021	– Office for National Minorities, – ministries and other national authorities and authorities of the self-governing local communities, – Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia,	– number of Commission meetings, – quantity of information and initiatives, submitted to the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for discussion, – number of discussed topical issues and the quantity of formed solutions	– the minutes of Commission sessions, – the rules of procedure of the Commission, – adopted decisions, – information and initiatives submitted for government discussion	– 1 to 2 sessions per year	– at least 3 sessions per year	2017–2021	– state budget (funds provided annually in the financial perspectives of the Office for National Minorities), – resources for the implementation of the commissions: approximately EUR 2,000.00 per year (depending on the number of sessions)

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
4. Annual report by	– Office for National	– adopted	– reports by	– 1 annual	– 1 annual	2017–	– state budget

<p>the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on the situation of the Roma community in Slovenia and on the realisation of the NPUR 2017–2021</p>	<p>Minorities, – ministries and other national authorities and authorities of the self-governing local communities, – Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia,</p>	<p>report by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia</p>	<p>public authorities, authorities of the self-governing local communities where the Roma community live, the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia and other authorities, – information obtained from meetings, on the ground or from other opportunities, – annual evaluations of the situation in the field of social integration of Roma community members in the environments where they live and on the</p>	<p>report by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia</p>	<p>report by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, – if necessary, interim reports to the Government Commission for the Protection of the Roma Ethnic Community (possibly also on individual topics or about individual issues)</p>	<p>2021</p>	<p>(funds provided annually in the financial perspectives of the Office for National Minorities), – no additional financial resources necessary</p>
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			effects of the implementation of the NPUR 2017–2021 measures				
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1.2 Goal: annual monitoring of the situation in the field of social integration of Roma community members in the environments where they live and the provision of the monitoring of the impact of the NPUR 2017–2021 measures (evaluation)

Explanation:

For effective monitoring of the situation in the field of social integration of Roma community members in the environments where they live and for the provision of the monitoring of the impact of the NPUR 2017–2021 measures it is necessary to provide regular and systemic collection of information by competent ministries and government offices and the information from the ground, from the environments where Roma live. In addition to the monitoring of the situation, it is necessary to provide regular evaluation of the impacts of the adopted measures, which ought to be expressed in the situation on the ground. A written evaluation of both the situation in the area of social integration of Roma community members in the environments where they live, as well as an evaluation of the realisation of measures will be written on an annual basis. Through the annual evaluation, a regular monitoring of the implementation of the measures and their results and impacts in practice, is to be provided, which will follow the actual needs for the improvement of the situation of the Roma community members in the environments where they live. Based on the annual evaluation of the effectiveness and viability of the measures, amendments to these measures shall be proposed if necessary. The evaluation of the NPUR 2017–2021 will also be included in the annual report by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on the situation of the Roma community, which shall be discussed and approved by the Government Commission of the Republic of Slovenia for the Protection of the Roma Community before the discussion by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, and after the adoption by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, it shall be discussed by the National Assembly.

The holder of the implementation of the measure shall be the authority competent for national minorities, which shall ensure the preparation of the evaluation through a selected external contractor and who shall also ensure the financial resources for these needs. Information for the preparation of the evaluation shall be obtained from all the competent authorities at the national and local level, the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia and other organisations of the Roma community and individual representatives of the Roma community, established multidisciplinary teams in the local communities, establishments working in the local environment, organisations of civil society, information obtained in the context of the activities of the National Roma Platform, etc. In compliance with the law, the implementation of the NPUR 2017–2021 shall also be regularly monitored by the Government Commission of the Republic of Slovenia for the Protection of the Roma Community and based on the evaluation, it shall propose any necessary amendments to the measures to the Government of the Republic of Slovenia.

Measures:

Measure	Implementing body/participating partners, responsible for implementation	Effect indicators	Data sources and methods	Baseline	Target value	Deadline for implementation	Financial resources
<p>Annual evaluation of the situation in the area of social integration of Roma community members in the environments where they live and on the effects of the implementation of the NPUR 2017–2021 measures.</p>	<p>– Office for National Minorities in cooperation with the competent ministries, the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, the municipalities where Roma live, the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia and other organisations of the Roma community and individual representatives of the Roma communities, established multidisciplinary teams in the local communities, institutions, working in the local environment, organisations of civil society, etc.</p>	<p>– the number of prepared written evaluations, – the number of positive and negative assessments of the implemented measures</p>	<p>– NPUR 2017–2021, – sessions by the government commission, – meetings with the competent public authorities and the authorities of the self-governing local communities, the Roma Community Council of the Republic of Slovenia and the organisations of the Roma community, – information of the established multidisciplinary teams, – activities in the framework of the National Roma Platform</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>4 evaluations</p>	<p>2018–2021</p>	<p>– state budget (funds will be provided in the financial perspectives of the Ministry of the Interior/Police) – estimated resources required: EUR 5,000.00 per year in the period 2018–2021</p>

2. EXPECTED RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE NPUR 2017–2021

The NPUR 2017–2021 sets out the guidelines for the achievement of the main and lasting changes in the socio-economic situation of the Roma community in Slovenia, and additionally major measures for the promotion and preservation of the cultural, language, informative and publishing activities of the Roma community and for raising awareness and anti-discrimination. The programme wishes to achieve an improvement in the situation of the Roma community members in the country, a reduction of the multi-dimensional socio-economic disparities between Roma and other population and the inclusion of Roma in all spheres of society and community. With its goals and measures, the programme wishes to provide a comprehensive approach that is based on the interaction of measures and activities in several areas. Such an approach demands appropriate coordination between the authorities and sectors, and at the same time active cooperation of the Roma community, both its organisations as well as its population in the local environments. This has a lot to do with the organisations of the Roma community, which receive financial resources from the government and the municipal budgets and from other resources for their activities for this purpose. The indicators for monitoring individual measures are determined so as to enable the monitoring of the implementation of the measures, results and impact of the measures for the provision of further monitoring in order to enable timely assessment of the results and impacts and to enable the integration of Roma community members in all areas covered by the programme.

Whether the programme is actually effectively designed and oriented towards the achievement of results in all the areas covered by it, shall be established **based on the answers to the following baseline orientations:**

a. a review of the areas with majority Roma community members gives at least an indicative outline of the situation of the Roma communities in Slovenia and an indicative definition and overview of the situation of the areas separated from other areas and settlements and where the marginalised inhabitants are not guaranteed equal opportunities. A clearer picture will permit a better assessment of the needs of individual Roma communities and it will enable a targeted approach to each of them, instead of a routine, linear and uniform provision of social services regardless of the status of their users. The effect will be achieved if the approach is targeted and adopted to the needs of the local Roma communities and their immediate surroundings;

b. useful and effective mechanisms for implementing and monitoring the implementation of the measures and activities defined in the programme. This means an improvement in cooperation between all the competent authorities (at the national and local level) which are responsible for the implementation of the measures and the integration of the interested public audiences which participates in the implementation of the measures and activities. This also means the establishment of regular communication and coordination between sectors and also a coordinated and targeted inter-sectoral operations at the national and local level. It also encourages integration at the local level as regards the regional activities, where the connecting links can be the associations of municipalities and the regional development agencies;

c. the mechanisms of inter-sectoral cooperation and integration will contribute to the monitoring of the implementation of the measures at the local level. The competent ministries have already appointed contact persons during the preparation of this programme and mostly they already monitor the situation and the rights of the Roma community in the framework of their other tasks. With the maintenance of the contact persons by competent public authorities and with the expansion of the network to the local level (additionally associations of municipalities and regional development agencies) a network will be established to ensure the flow of information, coordination in their own authorities regarding the implementation of the measures and their monitoring and reporting;

d. enhanced cooperation and integration between institutions and organisations at the local and regional level. Local institutions and organisations must ensure a more intensive and active cooperation in the implementation of measures included in the programme. With the establishment of a National Roma Platform, the strengthening of the dialogue and integration is anticipated both at national and local level. This will also establish an effective mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the measures and their impact in practice;

e. enhanced cooperation and integration in the context of the Roma community and its groups or parts of the community groups from all the areas where Roma community members live. The Roma community has cooperated both in the preparation hereof as well as in its implementation and monitoring. It is necessary to achieve active cooperation of the organisations of the Roma community and all its representatives (at the local and national level) and greater responsibility for the achievement of positive impacts of the measures regarding the improvement of their socio-economic situation and to increase the sense of ownership of the results of the measures to ensure the sustainability of the impacts;

f. the desired effects will be achieved if the willingness to cooperate is achieved at all levels and by all the competent authorities, groups and individuals and the implementation of the measures is monitored in all the areas of the programme, whereby their improvement is envisaged in case of a failure to implement them or a lack in their implementation is established.

