



Results and Future Prospects

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EMPOWERING MARGINALISED GROUPS THROUGH EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE DANUBE REGION

- ▶ Conference organised by the OeAD – the Austrian Agency for international mobility and cooperation and education, science and research – Department National Agency of Lifelong Learning and the Austrian Ministry of Education and Women's Affairs (BMBWF) as Coordinator of Priority Area 9 of the EUSDR
- ▶ Vienna, 2-3 October 2014, OeAD Haus
- ▶ Round 70 participants from ministries, non-governmental organisation and academic research community (from 12 countries)



Expected results

- ▶ Discussion
- ▶ Awareness raising
- ▶ Networking
- ▶ Getting insight into existing and completed projects
- ▶ Mutual learning on best practices
- ▶ Development on project ideas in order to create possibility to continue international cooperation

What has been achieved?

In plenary session we:

- ▶ were introduced to EU policies on ROMA and education (Why, What and How?)
- ▶ got “multiple perspectives” on education policies, Roma participation and leadership in education reforms
- ▶ were introduced to recent research projects of the University of Vienna
- ▶ and multilateral project “RE-Chance” as a good practice example

Therefore...(through vivid discussion) we concluded:

- ▶ At EU policy level Roma are explicit but not exclusively targeted – it is necessary to pay attention that Roma are addressed in national policies, actions and measures
- ▶ There is room for improvement of implementation of policies, actions and measures
- ▶ Challenge related to data collection and statistics is present
- ▶ **Discrimination and segregation of Roma population are still significant problems!**
- ▶ Monitoring and evaluation systems/mechanisms/frameworks/indicators should be established/improved + evaluation of impacts and effects used in future policies and action developments
- ▶ Nothing for Roma without Roma

In four parallel workshops...

- ▶ 9 multilateral Roma projects were presented, which served as an inspiration for the new project ideas
- ▶ Work on project ideas took place

And later

- ▶ we were reminded on EU Framework for national Roma Integration Strategies (focused on education) and “how it works” in Austria

Following projects ideas are developed:

- ▶ Braking down barriers – improving dialog (quality and frequency of communication) between teachers and Roma families
- ▶ Write your story – participate literacy (support children, youth and adults in improvement functional literacy skills)
- ▶ Phoenix Cafe - social enterprise(s), training centre and place to apply gained skills, sustainable through providing hospitality services
- ▶ Development functioning Roma mobile support teams (more effective and sustainable inclusion of Roma in education and employment)

But (!)

In further elaboration of the projects we should bear in mind

- ▶ “Advices” we got in the beginning in three vignettes for the third generation policy/projects (Prof. Kovacs Cerovic)!
- ▶ That sustainability should be assured
- ▶ Involvement of Roma representatives is necessary
- ▶ Research results should be considered
- ▶ *Do not forget higher education + Inequity starts with birth (Jeff Madrick, 2014)*

Looking back

- ▶ Discussion 😊
- ▶ Awareness raising 😐
- ▶ Networking 😊
- ▶ Getting insight into existing and completed projects 😊
- ▶ Mutual learning on best practices 😊
- ▶ Development on project ideas in order to create possibility to continue international cooperation 😊

Conclusion (Reminder)

EUSDR PA 9 promotes INVESTMENT IN PEOPLE
AND SKILLS!

...

It could not be accomplished if all of us do
not give our best to empower marginalised
groups!

Thank you!

**For your attention,
active participation and looking
forward to future cooperation.**