

“Promotion of more active policies on the Social
Inclusion of Traveller and Roma Minorities”

**Impact of the European policies at national
level: National Action Plans for Social
Inclusion (NAPs/inclusion)**

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NAP/Inclusion – Four Objectives

Facilitate participation in employment and access to resources, rights, goods and services for all

Prevent the risks of exclusion

Help the most vulnerable

Mobilise all Actors

Revision of Objectives for second NAPs/inclusion

Agreed need to give more emphasis to situation regarding ethnic minorities and immigrants, to highlight more clearly the high risk of poverty and social exclusion faced by them –

*“To promote the social integration of women and men at risk of facing persistent poverty, for example because they have a disability **or belong to a group experiencing particular integration problems such as those affecting immigrants**”*

EU15 and EU10.....

EU15 first NAP/inclusion submitted June 2001
for period 2001-2003

EU15 second NAP/inclusion submitted July 2003
for period 2003-2005

EU10 Joint Inclusion Memoranda signed
December 2003

EU10 first NAP/inclusion submitted July 2004 for
period 2004-2006

Current 25 NAPs/inclusion based on common
objectives

Common Outline for 2003/2005 NAPs/inclusion

MS encouraged to take account of lessons learnt from first plan and to give more attention to

- “Developing an integrated and strategic approach to key issues that cut across the common objectives. These could include...immigration and ethnic diversity”
- “identifying and developing policy responses to assist those who are most marginalised ... will vary ... could include... women from ethnic minorities”

NAPs/inclusion Policies regarding Roma & Travellers

Analysis from:

- Joint Inclusion Report, March 2004 (EU15)
- Report on Social Inclusion, February 2005 (EU10)
- Joint Report on Social Protection and Social Inclusion, January 2005 (EU25)
- Individual NAPs/inclusion

NAPs/inclusion Policies regarding Roma & Travellers

Main points 1/4

- Identification of immigrants/ethnic minorities as being at risk – available indicators are generally below comparable indicators for majority;
- Roma referred to extensively in Slovak, Hungarian, Polish, Czech, Latvian plans, lesser extent Slovenian and Lithuanian plans (no Roma in Malta) (10);
- “Lack of data on migrant and ethnic groups continues to be a major problem in the NAPs/inclusion” Little signs of strategies to improve data collection, analysis and publication (but some comprehensive data in Hungarian plan, UK also);
- Diversity of groups such as Roma in most cases not acknowledged, and few plans refer to problems of multiple discrimination (10);

NAPs/inclusion Policies regarding Roma & Travellers

Main points 2/4

- Lack in many plans of joined-up approach to tackling poverty and social exclusion of ethnic minorities, “only in few cases a clear strategy, with specific targets, objectives, budget, timetable and evaluation mechanisms has been set out”;
- Higher risk of poverty of ethnic minorities highlighted far more in second NAPs/inclusion by many MS. Revised objectives and outline seem to have contributed to a thorough reflection on priority groups such as ...migrants and ethnic minorities (15). But.....
- Few plans provide clear evidence that situation facing migrant populations has improved since submission of first NAPS/Inclusion (15);
- Few plans providing clear and specific objectives and targets;
- High levels of unemployment and welfare dependency, low levels of education and training, poor living conditions:

NAPs/inclusion Policies regarding Roma & Travellers

Main points 3/4

- Low (primary) education levels recognised in plans as primary risk factor for poverty and exclusion – various measures in place to improve situation;
- Wide range of measures to boost employment rates of excluded ethnic groups;
- Surprisingly little attention to housing and health care issues in plans (10)
- Little attention to rights-based approach. Little reference in plans to implementation of Directive on combating discrimination on grounds of ethnic or racial origin (but in 5);

NAPs/inclusion Policies regarding Roma & Travellers

Main points 4/4

- “Capacity building of organisations representing ethnic groups and civil society in general is highly important for effective programme design and delivery”
- Little explicit acknowledgement of contribution to economic prosperity and cultural diversity (but Inter-Cultural Social Mediation Service (SEMSI), Municipal Council of Madrid);

NAPs/inclusion Policies regarding Roma & Travellers

Conclusion:

- “Some countries are moving in the right direction and progress is to be welcomed. Nevertheless, much effort remains to be done, in particular in defining a coherent approach, targets and indicators and procedures for implementing, monitoring and evaluation of policies.”

IRISH NAP/INCLUSION: Travellers – NAP/Inclusion Policy Task

“To further develop policies with the necessary supports to enable Travellers achieve greater integration while respecting their distinctive way of life”

Travellers - NAP/Inclusion Targets/Actions/Approaches

General targets, with specific targets across a number of policy areas:

Education

Employment

Health

Housing

Travellers - NAP/Inclusion
Targets/Actions - Education

Ensure appropriate placement of all Travellers in primary school to be achieved by 2003

Travellers - NAP/Inclusion
Targets/Actions - Education

The transfer rate of Travellers to post-primary schools will be increased to 95% by 2004.

Travellers - NAP/Inclusion Targets/Actions - Education

Each third-level institution will double the participation by mature disadvantaged students, including Travellers and Refugees, by 2006 (within the 15% quota).

Travellers - NAP/Inclusion Targets/Actions - Employment

***Reduce the level of unemployment
experienced by vulnerable groups towards the
national average by 2007.***

Travellers - NAP/Inclusion Targets/Actions - Health

the gap in life expectancy between the Traveller community and the whole population to be reduced by least 10% by 2007.

Travellers - NAP/Inclusion Targets/Actions - Housing

***All Travellers' families identified in the local authority
five-year Traveller accommodation programme
process as being in need of accommodation will be
appropriately accommodated by end 2004.***

OSI June Report - Findings

- Evidence of progress, but lack of data hinders measurement, requiring addressing for next NAP/Inclusion (data strategy);
- Wide range of actions detailed;
- Target-setting to be considered closely for next NAP/Inclusion.

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