



CAHROM (2019)12final

Strasbourg, 10 December 2019

AD HOC COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON ROMA AND TRAVELLER¹ ISSUES (CAHROM)

**THEMATIC REPORT
ON NATIONAL EXPERIENCES OF SOCIAL AND/OR GEOGRAPHICAL MAPPING
OF ROMA COMMUNITIES AND THEIR CONCRETE IMPACT IN POLICY
DEVELOPMENTS AND DATA COLLECTION**

Based on the CAHROM thematic visit to Zagreb, Croatia, 8-10 May 2019

Endorsed by the CAHROM by written procedure on 10 December 2019

¹ The term “Roma and Travellers” is used at the Council of Europe to encompass the wide diversity of the groups covered by the work of the Council of Europe in this field: on the one hand a) Roma, Sinti/Manush, Calé, Kaale, Romanichals, Boyash/Rudari; b) Balkan Egyptians and Ashkali; c) Eastern groups (Dom/Garachi, Lom/Bosha and Abdal); and, on the other hand, groups such as Travellers, Yenish, and the populations designated under the administrative term “Gens du voyage”, as well as persons who identify themselves as Gypsies. The present is an explanatory footnote, not a definition of Roma and/or Travellers.

Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Background and context of the thematic report and visit	4
1.2 Composition of the thematic group of experts	5
1.3 Expectations and motivations from the hosting and partner countries	6
1.4 Programme of the thematic visit	6
2. EXAMPLES OF JOINT INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND INITIATIVES IN RELATION TO SOCIAL AND/OR GEOGRAPHICAL MAPPING OF ROMA COMMUNITIES AND THEIR CONCRETE IMPACT IN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS AND DATA COLLECTION	6
2.1 EU – FRA, UNDP and the World Bank	6
2.2 Others	6
3. NATIONAL PRACTICES AND GOVERNMENTAL INITIATIVES IN RELATION TO SOCIAL AND/OR GEOGRAPHICAL MAPPING OF ROMA COMMUNITIES AND THEIR CONCRETE IMPACT IN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS AND DATA COLLECTION	7
3.1 Croatia (hosting country)	7
3.2 Georgia (partner country)	8
3.3 Hungary (partner country)	9
3.4 North Macedonia (partner country)	10
3.5 Republic of Moldova (partner country)	11
3.6 Poland (partner country)	12
3.7 Portugal (partner country)	13
3.8 Ukraine (partner country)	15
4. CONCLUSIONS, LESSONS LEARNT, GOOD PRACTICES AND FOLLOW-UP	16
4.1 Conclusions regarding the organisation of the CAHROM thematic visit	16
4.2 General and country-specific conclusions and lessons learnt in relation to:	16
4.2.1 National practices IN RELATION TO SOCIAL AND/OR GEOGRAPHICAL MAPPING OF ROMA COMMUNITIES.....	17
4.2.2. National practices and CONCRETE IMPACT of mapping IN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS AND DATA COLLECTION.....	19
4.2.3 International practices IN RELATION TO SOCIAL AND/OR GEOGRAPHICAL MAPPING OF ROMA COMMUNITIES.....	20
4.2.4 International practices CONCRETE IMPACT of mapping IN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS AND DATA COLLECTION.....	20
4.3 Good practices identified at national and international levels	21
4.3.1 In Croatia, hosting country.....	21
4.3.2 Good practices identified in partner countries (Georgia, Hungary, Republic of Moldova, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal and Ukraine).....	24

4.3.3	Good practices identified at international level	25
4.4	Envisaged short-term and mid-term follow-up	25
4.4.1	At the level of CAHROM and the Council of Europe in general	25
4.4.2	At the level of Croatia, hosting country.....	26
4.4.3	At the level of partner countries	26
APPENDICES:		27
Appendix 1:	Official invitation letter received from the Croatian authorities	27
Appendix 2:	Programme	27
Appendix 3:	List of experts and participants.....	27
Appendix 4:	Mapping of Roma and Traveller Communities: A comparative perspective on European practices – document prepared by Dr Zora Popova, European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI) expert.....	27

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and context of the thematic report and visit

Mapping Roma and Traveller communities is still relatively new. It can be used as a tool for achieving wider long-lasting data collection, and the data as benchmarks for defining policies and priorities and also for the monitoring/evaluation of the implementation of national strategies for Roma and/or Traveller integration (NRIS) if the mapping is repeated over a certain period of time. Alongside with the implementation of National Strategies and Action Plans for Roma Integration and the need to develop indicators, benchmarks, and evaluate the impact of actions and use of funds, the overall approach has changed as it has become evident that no data in practice means limited possibilities to assess progress.

During the 15th CAHROM meeting held in Athens, Greece, on 22-25 May 2018, the CAHROM member on behalf of Croatia announced the final phase of the [Roma Inclusion in the Croatian Society: a Baseline Data Study](#) - an example of an analytical framework for designing short-term and long-term action priorities, based on social and geographical mapping of the Roma population in Croatia. It reveals the pathway towards the establishment of baseline data against which to measure the effects of the implementation of the National Roma Inclusion Strategy in the country. During its 16th plenary meeting in Strasbourg on 16-19 October 2018, the Committee heard a preliminary comparative analysis of geographical and/or social mapping of Roma and Traveller communities in vulnerable situations in various member states from Ms Zora Popova, Senior Research Associate at the European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI). They welcomed this analysis and invited Ms Popova to pursue this comparative analysis by introducing new elements of comparison (census results, halting sites for Travellers, indicators, methodology, etc.) and enlarging the research to other member states with a view to present a more consolidated analysis at its next meeting. At the same meeting, the CAHROM member on behalf of Croatia confirmed that Croatia would host a thematic visit on National experiences of social and/or geographical mapping of Roma communities and their concrete impact in policy development and data collection, in May 2019 in Zagreb. This proposed thematic visit attracted seven partner countries: Georgia, Hungary, Republic of Moldova, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal and Ukraine.

In February 2018, the Secretariat sent a questionnaire to the CAHROM members to identify the member States which have, are or will prepare some kind of “geographical or social mapping” of Roma and/or Traveller communities (ethnic based or based on vulnerability/social exclusion) in order to prepare an “Overview of geographical and social mapping of Roma and/or Traveller communities”.

Most academic research and analysis are based on national census results (usually decennial) which provide only a partial picture of the situation of Roma since many do not declare themselves as Roma. Ways should be found to conduct similar research and analysis based on accepted estimated figures of the Roma population. [Social and Geographical Mapping](#)², therefore, is an instrument of utmost necessity for Roma integration. Social and geographical mapping derive information from a community sample in specific geographical scopes and provide an overview of the community’s structure and socioeconomic situation. This method is used to identify relative locations of households and demographic characteristics of ethno-linguistic groups. The outcomes from the mapping can provide information of health patterns, wealth ranking and other social divisions.

No member state of the Council of Europe and of the European Union imposes a full prohibition of data collection on ethnicity. The declaration of ethnicity during national censuses is on voluntary basis. There are many examples of social and geographical mapping in European countries but primarily, data can be accumulated through: healthcare services, schools, living conditions, counselling and social services and projects and fieldwork.³ Ethnic identification can be also established through proxies for racial and ethnic origin such as mother tongue and/or nationality, migration characteristics.⁴ Although social and geographical mapping feeds

² http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTTOPPISOU/Resources/1424002-1185304794278/4026035-1185375653056/4028835-1185375678936/3_Social_mapping.pdf

³ http://nws.euocities.eu/MediaShell/media/Roma_mapping_in_cities2017_final.pdf

⁴ https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=2ahUKEwio-zZ7d7gAhUIJVAKHXz1CNsQFjAAegQICRAC&url=https%3A%2F%2Fec.europa.eu%2Fnewsroom%2Fjust%2Fdocument.cfm%3Faction%3Ddisplay%26doc_id%3D45791&usq=AOvVaw1miR_XV5fKoBBRjokOn6Mx

the process of policymaking, there are many risks and challenges in collecting data on Roma that is not perceived as harmful by the Roma people. The misuse of data through generalizations of the situation of Roma can fuel prejudices and increase discrimination as well as stigmatization and exclusion of Roma. That is why countries need to find a way to collect data on the situation of Roma and use this evidence to improve policy responses to the challenges Roma face, while at the same time protecting Roma against the risk of data misuse. Executed in accordance to all international and national guidelines on data protection, social and geographical mapping can encourage people to embrace their identity and can lead to improvement on data collection through censuses and neighbourhood surveys⁵. A development in the area of social and geographical mapping of Roma can give signposts in planning interventions at all levels and can help the Council of Europe countries to define foothold measures, timelines and indicators for a strengthened post-2019 policy document on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers.

1.2 Composition of the thematic group of experts

The list of the experts participating in the thematic group is listed below and their contacts details can be found in Appendix 3. Spain is not participating in the visit but its expectations and experience have been reflected in the present report as far as possible.

Experts from the requesting/hosting country

CROATIA	Mr Alen TAHIRI	CAHROM member, Director, Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities
	Ms Klaudija KREGAR OREŠKOVIĆ	Advisor, Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities

Experts from GEORGIA, HUNGARY, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, NORTH MACEDONIA, POLAND, PORTUGAL and UKRAINE, partner countries, + ECMI and FRA

GEORGIA	Ms Tinatin GOGHELIANI	CAHROM member, Head of Department, Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Reconciliation and Civic Equality
HUNGARY	Mr László ULICSKA	Expert appointed by the CAHROM member, State Secretariat for Social Affairs and Social Inclusion
NORTH MACEDONIA	Ms Mabela KAMBERI	CAHROM member, Head of Department, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
MOLDOVA (REP.)	Mr Nicolae RADIȚA	CAHROM member and rapporteur on Roma youth, Head of Roma National Centre (RNC)
POLAND	Ms Malgorzata ROZYCKA	CAHROM member, Ministry of Interior and Administration
PORTUGAL	Ms Berill BARANYAI	CAHROM member, Support Unit for Roma Communities – High Commission for Migration
UKRAINE	Ms Nataliia TKACHENKO	Expert appointed by the CAHROM member, Head of the Division, Ministry of Culture
	Mr Vadym MATIUSHENKO	President, Kharkiv National-Cultural Society "Romen"
	Mr Oleksandr BILAK	Deputy Mayor, Uzhhorod
ECMI	Ms Zora POPOVA	Senior Research Associate, European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI)

⁵ http://nws.eurocities.eu/MediaShell/media/Roma_mapping_in_cities2017_final.pdf, page 7

FRA

Mr Andrey IVANOV

Programme manager, Technical Assistance & Capacity Building Unit, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

1.3 Expectations and motivations from the hosting and partner countries

In 2018, the **Croatian** Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities published a study collecting baseline data on the socio-economic position of the Roma community in order to monitor progress with respect to Roma inclusion and integration. The basis for the study was a mapping of the Roma population, combining external and self-identification methods, which gave a precise indication of the size of the Roma population in Croatia for the first time ever. The need for this study streamed from one of the recommendations of an external evaluation of the National Roma Inclusion Strategy 2013-2020 implemented in 2015 which confirmed that despite the considerable attention devoted to monitoring and evaluation in the text of the Strategy and its action plan, there was no overarching system in place to gather data on the implementation of planned measures and strategic objectives. Hence, the recommendation to collect baseline data to enable the assessment of Roma integration measures at national, regional, and local levels. **Croatia**, the hosting country of this thematic visit, presents various phases of the research, added-value of this mapping exercise which involved the Roma community in its implementation as well as major outputs and follow-up activities. A summary of the Croatian 2012 EU Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) project, a motive for hosting this thematic visit, has been published in [The Compendium of Practices on Equality Data](#) prepared by FRA. As we are at the beginning of the mapping process, it is crucial to share information and experiences and to identify the best methodology(ies), approach(es) and added value of such a process.

Ukraine is interested in sharing experiences with the host and partner countries as one of recommendations from the 2017 “Thematic report on challenges and best practices in implementing Roma inclusion strategies”, was to **collect data about Roma and map their geographical presence in Ukraine**, following the positive examples of the Slovak Republic, Spain, Hungary, Serbia, Croatia, etc. Some of these mapping exercises were done with the financial assistance of UNDP.

1.4 Programme of the thematic visit

The agenda (see Appendix 2) includes meetings and discussions with several relevant ministries and state agencies such as the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, the Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds, the Ombudswomen Office, the Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Science and Education, the UNICEF Office for Croatia, the University of Zagreb and the Centre for Peace Studies and other civil society actors.

2. EXAMPLES OF JOINT INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND INITIATIVES IN RELATION TO SOCIAL AND/OR GEOGRAPHICAL MAPPING OF ROMA COMMUNITIES AND THEIR CONCRETE IMPACT IN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS AND DATA COLLECTION

2.1 EU – FRA, UNDP and the World Bank

- [The Situation of Roma in 11 EU Member states \(2012\)](#)⁶ is a unique example of international multi-agency cooperation. The surveys, which share core components, yield robust and comparative data on the socio-economic status of Roma alongside data on the enjoyment of their rights in practice.

2.2 Others

- [EUROCITIES](#)⁷ is the network of major European cities. Members are the elected local and municipal governments. It brings together the local governments of over 140 of Europe's largest cities and over 45 partner cities, which between them govern 130 million citizens across 39 countries. Its Social Affairs Forum consists of 8 working groups one of which is on Roma Inclusion. **The Working Group on Roma**

⁶ <https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2012/situation-roma-11-eu-member-states-survey-results-glance>

⁷ <http://www.euocities.eu/>

Inclusion encompasses representatives of 55 cities across all over Europe. Its key objectives are set to build east-west cooperation for Roma inclusion, to increase capacity for integrated local strategies and to involve Roma people in all the work. The Working Group addresses intersectional issues related to “domestic’ and ‘migrant’ Roma groups in Europe. The cooperation between major European cities is maintained through several methods of interaction: Mutual learning, Policy transfer, Capacity building through peer reviews, Toolkits and Guidelines and Policy & advocacy towards EU institutions. During 2017, members of the EUROCITIES platform initiated a mapping of Roma inclusion in 23 cities involving domestic Roma, EU mobile citizens and non-EU citizens.

- [ECMI \(European Centre for Minority Issues\)](https://www.ecmi.de/)⁸ currently operates [The Roma Empowerment Programme](https://www.ecmi.de/programmes/roma/)⁹ that aims to inform, document and review the Roma situation in Europe, whether the recognition as a national minority furthers Roma empowerment and the impact of the European and national Roma strategies on improving the status of Roma. With its Cross- Cluster research programme, ECMI aims not only to address the complexity of the Roma inclusion objective, but also to promote the need for a general policy shift from integration to ‘Roma empowerment’.

3. NATIONAL PRACTICES AND GOVERNMENTAL INITIATIVES IN RELATION TO SOCIAL AND/OR GEOGRAPHICAL MAPPING OF ROMA COMMUNITIES AND THEIR CONCRETE IMPACT IN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS AND DATA COLLECTION

3.1 Croatia (hosting country)

The [Roma Inclusion in the Croatian Society: a Baseline Data Study](https://pravamanjina.gov.hr/UserDocslImages/dokumenti/Roma%20Inclusion%20in%20the%20Croatian%20Society%20-%20a%20Baseline%20Data%20Study.pdf)¹⁰ from 2018 is an example of **an analytical framework for designing short-term and long-term action priorities, based on social and geographical mapping of the Roma population in Croatia**. It reveals the pathway towards the establishment of baseline data against which to measure the effects of the implementation of the National Roma Inclusion Strategy in the country.

New initiatives for data collection in Croatia have been announced by the **Croatian Bureau of Statistics** in respect of preparation of the 2021 Census. Novelties are covered by the usage of technologies and development of an e-questionnaire that can be filled in by using two methods: CAWI (computer assisted web interviewing) and CAPI (computer assisted personal interviewing) in the period from 1 April to 7 May 2021. This new system is in accordance with the EU standards on data collection and protection. Answers to specific questions on religion and minority are optional; national minorities will be given the questionnaire in their language (for CAPI methodology), including for Roma. First estimated results will be available 60 days after the finalisation of the census and the final ones will be available one year after the census.

During 2017, the **Ministry of Interior** carried out a Survey in the Međimurje county¹¹, in, with 562 persons over the age of 18 about their perception of security. The survey results indicate citizens believe that the responsibility for security lays on the police but the responsibility for the quality of life lays on the State. Since Roma are charged with almost 70% of criminal activities, out of which 37% are delinquency cases, the police are dealing with the consequences while the root causes are not dealt with by the State (lack of integration policies and child protection measures). Data is used to influence local integration policies and solutions are sought to involve Roma in police work, in particularly to work with children. A Prevention Council has been established in the Međimurje county involving various public services and structures since the situation requires an urgent intervention - it is essential that Roma children are educated, not to end up on the street and become criminals. The Prevention Council’s role is to ensure synergy among education, employment, social work and police services.

⁸ <https://www.ecmi.de/home/>

⁹ <https://www.ecmi.de/programmes/roma/>

¹⁰ <https://pravamanjina.gov.hr/UserDocslImages/dokumenti/Roma%20Inclusion%20in%20the%20Croatian%20Society%20-%20a%20Baseline%20Data%20Study.pdf>

¹¹ According to Census 2011 Međimurje County has population of 113.804, including 5 107 Roma, though unofficial estimates reach upto 10,000 Roma. IPA 2012 pre-research lists 6 368 Roma in 1364 households, living in 14 localities, out of which 12 are segregated.

3.2 Georgia (partner country)

The 2002 national census in Georgia indicated 472 Roma residents and the 2014 census, 604 Roma residents. However, the real number of the Roma population is probably much higher. According to [Minority Rights Group](#), Roma people in Georgia are one of the least protected and most vulnerable ethnic groups. Roma communities face significant marginalization and discrimination, leading to poverty, unemployment, lack of access to education and health care. Due to a general absence of proper documentation although the process of registration is in good progress, they are excluded from social security programmes.¹² Unlike other ethnic communities, the Roma have attracted very limited public attention over the years.

The first ever registered assessment of the Roma community in Georgia was implemented in 2008 and made available through a report by [the European Centre for Minority Issues](#)¹³. According to the report, although accurate estimates are difficult to establish, the population is thought to number up to 1,500 persons, living in multiple small settlements across Georgia. Roma groups today are scattered across Georgia, with no one location holding a population of more than 300 people. In Tbilisi, where the largest community can be found, approximately 250-300 people live in rented apartments and homes in the Samgori district. Roma communities reside in some villages in the Kakheti region, Gatchiani district (Gardabani municipality), Kobuleti (Autonomous Republic of Ajara), Kutasi and in the town of Sukhumi (Georgian occupied region of Abkhazia). Some families in those locations claim to have a Ukrainian or Russian starting point of migration to Georgia, while others are recorded to have been Kurdish/Azerbaijani Roma.

Roma have difficulties finding employment in Georgia, where unemployment among the population as a whole is quite high. In urban areas Roma are engaged predominantly with trading and re-selling activities while in villages a small proportion of men are occupied in farming enterprises and irregular employment. Begging is a widespread means of making a living. Negative stereotypes of the Roma as beggars, thieves, and petty criminals still persist in Georgia. A special governmental programme was run for smaller minority groups, including Roma. However, the weak administrative procedures after the collapse of the USSR and the internal displacement of some communities, except for Roma living in large urban areas, some Roma people still do not have personal identification documents despite the ongoing registration process.

The high level of poverty makes it difficult for parents to afford necessary school supplies, clothes, and textbooks which has a negative impact on school attendance. Those children who do attend school rarely finish primary and secondary school, usually dropping out after the sixth grade. The lack of registration documents and finances prevent many Roma from receiving medical care. Children are largely born at home and exposed to numerous health complications as well. Higher infant mortality and lower life expectancy are notable characteristics of many Roma in Georgia.

The Romani community in Georgia belongs to two kindred branches, differing in terms of cultural tradition and religious belief, as well as peculiarities in language. To identify these two branches, the Roma living in Georgia use the terms of *Krim (Crimean)* and *Vlakh*. The first term is used to define Muslim Roma who originate from Crimea, South Ukraine as well as South Russia, while the latter is used to identify Christian Roma, having arrived largely from elsewhere in Ukraine and Russia.

The mother tongue for Roma living in Georgia is Romani, spoken in two main dialects—Krim and Vlakh (see above). Roma of both branches speak Russian fluently and Russian also serves as the means of communication between the Krim and Vlakh branches. The level of knowledge of the Georgian language among Roma is also high, though not as high as Russian.

However, measures have been taken by the Georgian authorities aiming to improve access to education for vulnerable children, such as the educational programme “Supporting Social Inclusion”. Regions with compact Roma settlements benefit from educational clubs held in community centres which hold among other cultural activities, Georgian language classes. The outcome is an increased attendance of Roma children in public schools - from 88 in 2015 to 289 in 2018. The process of registering Roma residents and ensuring their legal support, carried out by the Ministry of Justice since 2011, is in progress. According to statistical data, between 2011 and

¹² <https://minorityrights.org/country/georgia/>

¹³ <https://www.ecmi.de/home/>

2018, 75 Roma were provided with legal status. Moreover, there are large-scale awareness raising campaigns on education, state social programmes and services, domestic violence, early marriages, gender equality, women's rights etc.;

3.3 Hungary (partner country)

Coordination by strategy – the use of territorial data: From HNSIS to LEOPs

The *Hungarian National Social Inclusion Strategy 2011-2020*¹⁴ (HNSIS) was adopted in 2011, in line with the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies¹⁵. The HNSIS is not a Roma strategy only, but has a wider focus with relevance to extreme poverty, child poverty and territorial disparities. Considering the Hungarian structure of governmental strategies, the HNSIS is closely bound to the EU2020 strategy¹⁶, to the Hungarian National Reform Program¹⁷ (NRP), with regard to its aims to fighting poverty. The top goals of the HNSIS are identical to the target indicators of the NRP.

The strategy has three years action plans. Each action plan is included in a separate government decree, just as the strategy itself. In 2014 – in line with the results of ongoing monitoring activities, and with the preparation of the second action plan – the HNSIS was revised and updated with new data. The strategy is divided into seven chapters according to its intervention areas: I. Child well-being, II. Education and training, III. Employment, IV. Health, V. Territorial disparities and housing, VI. Awareness raising and fighting discrimination, VII. Monitoring.

The HNSIS puts *great emphasis on monitoring* with two main aims: tracking societal changes and following the implementation of interventions. This means that: we watch what is happening in the society, and we track and log what we are doing. The impact assessment is about the relationship of the two aspects: in order to evaluate the impacts of our work, we have to see if there is any relation between our work and what is happening in the society (with regard to the problems of poverty and the Roma population). In that regard monitoring activities are indispensable parts of the management and coordination of the strategy and its actions plans.

Considering the demographic and social characteristics of the Roma population in Hungary, we have two main data sources in the central statistical infrastructure: the *census*¹⁸ and the *large sample surveys* carried out regularly by the Hungarian Central Statistical Office (HCSO). Both the census and the regular surveys (the Statistics on Income and Living Conditions, SILC, and the Labor Force Survey, LFS) make it possible to declare double ethnic identity, such as Hungarian and Roma (or vice versa).

The SILC and the LFS produce the main EU-harmonized poverty and labour market indicators in ethnic (Roma) breakdowns, such as people at risk of poverty or social exclusion (AROPE), people at risk of poverty (AROP), severe material deprivation (SMD), people living in households with low work intensity (LWI), rate of those with basic education at the maximum aged 15–74, employment rate aged 15–64, etc. These indicators are part of the HNSIS indicator set.

The census in 2011 with its questions on ethnic identities and the questions on languages used in everyday life showed about 316 thousand Roma in Hungary. According to widely shared opinions of statisticians and social scientists this number could be about (at least) a half of the “real” number of the Roma population. Nevertheless, these questions in the census serve as a good base to see the territorial dispersion of the Roma population, and to make estimations about the “real” number and demographic characteristics of the Roma population.

¹⁴ <http://romagov.hu/dokumentumok/>

¹⁵ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A52011DC0173>

¹⁶ <https://ec.europa.eu/eu2020/pdf/COMPLET%20EN%20BARROSO%20%20%20007%20-%20Europe%202020%20-%20EN%20version.pdf>

See also the European Semester: https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/economic-and-fiscal-policy-coordination/eu-economic-governance-monitoring-prevention-correction/european-semester_en

¹⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/economic-and-fiscal-policy-coordination/eu-economic-governance-monitoring-prevention-correction/european-semester/european-semester-timeline/national-reform-programmes-and-stability-convergence-programmes/2019-european-semester_en

¹⁸ See the questions 34-35. (and 36-37. – on language usage) in the questionnaire of the Census 2011: http://www.ksh.hu/nepszamlalas/docs/kerdoivek/szemely_angol.pdf

Based on the results of the Census 2011, the HCSO National Demographic Research Institution (NDRI)¹⁹ prepared estimations²⁰ about the demographic characteristics of the Roma population (for the purposes of the HNSIS). The main aim of the study was to have a more precise view on the territorial dispersion, the demographic dimensions and the social characteristics (educational attainment, employment) of the population. Due to this series of studies we have detailed information on the *population with Roma affiliation*²¹.

Considering that the HNSIS is an anti-poverty strategy, and given the fact – what we also know from SILC – that a huge percentage of the Roma population is living in poverty, has low educational attainment, and low employment level, the territorial approach and the territorial-level examination of the distribution of poverty is an effective tool in targeting the problems affecting the Roma population. The census with its detailed data on households and people offers us the possibility to determine the localities where the most vulnerable people are living in significant numbers, these are the *segregated areas*.

The “segregated area” is a concept defined by law in Hungarian territorial development policy. It is defined by the proportion of those who are in active age, have primary education at the maximum, and are without regular income from employment. The proportion of this population must reach 20-25-35-50 percent of the population of the area (depending on the size of the settlement). The minimum unit is 50 people. (Be aware that the concept has no ethnic element, but if we put on each other the segregation map and the map on Roma population we get convincing overlaps.)

According to the national segregation database and map²² created by HCSO in 2011 there were: 1384 segregated settlements/areas, with 84 401 dwellings and 276 244 inhabitants (with more than 30% children under 15). The segregation map and database gives wide room for further research and monitoring database developments (see the healthcare study mentioned in the good practices’ section).

The database and the map of segregated areas and settlements consists of data on the demographic characteristics of the population, indicators on living conditions, employment, level of education, and housing conditions (19 indicators). The information on the settlement itself (street-level map and database of the segregated areas) is available for every local government, and serves as baseline data for planning local developments. The national map and database serves territorial planning at national level. The use of segregation maps has a tradition in the Hungarian territorial planning. Local authorities have the obligation by law to use the segregation map in their development plans.

The social inclusion-specific policy planning tool on settlement level is the *Local Equal Opportunity Program* (LEOP). This is, the “local version of the HNSIS” with a very similar, but broader thematic structure. LEOPs provide for measures aimed at women, those living in extreme poverty, the Roma, the elderly, people with disabilities and children. Every municipality has to have the document by law to apply for any kind of EU or national support. The local authorities have to prepare their LEOPs for 5 years and have to revise the document every 2 years. In this work they are assisted with mentoring by the background institution of the ministry (education, methodological guidance), and also by web based services. The content and structure of the LEOP is similar to the HNSIS, it contains the local context and an action plan. The intervention areas are education, employment, housing, health and social services. The LEOP has its own indicator set (compatible with HNSIS), the indicators are available online. The LEOP has to bear the consent of the local community, it must be discussed with local actors (at the Local Equality Forum), and be accepted by the local government. All LEOPs are public on the Internet.²³

3.4 North Macedonia (partner country)

¹⁹ www.demografia.hu/en/

²⁰ Study is under publication.

²¹ Concept introduced by NDRI for methodological purposes in the estimations on Roma population.

²² The GIS work was done by the Lechner Knowledge Center.

²³ <https://hep.szgyf.gov.hu/Public/PublishedProgramSearch.aspx?searchtext=>

The census planned for 2011 was cancelled and the only official data available is from a 2002 census when 53 879 persons declared themselves as Roma and another 3 843 as Egyptians.

- [Strategy for the Roma in Republic of Macedonia 2014 – 2020](#).²⁴
- [Macedonia in Figures, 2018](#). State Statistical Office of the Republic of North Macedonia. **Provides some data on Roma.**

The [Midterm review of the National strategies on Roma](#)²⁵, as well as [Progress reports of the Implementation of the National Strategy of Roma in the Republic of North Macedonia](#)²⁶ clearly indicate that there is a need for evidence-based policies with an ultimate purpose to plan and design actions, and measure the impact and progress of the designed interventions. However, despite the absence of systematic data collection by the official national institutions, international donors such as the World Bank, EU, UNDP have made considerable efforts in 2004, 2011 and 2017 to support large administrative surveys on Roma in 12 countries, including North Macedonia.

[Thematic Evaluation of EU Support to Roma Communities and Roma Social Mapping](#)²⁷ in North Macedonia. In 2018 the European Commission provided the support for the report. The document evaluates the impact of each effort on the government²⁸. Main data on Roma communities is extracted from the UNDP-WB-EC Regional Roma Surveys: [Roma at a Glance The Former Yugoslav Republic Of Macedonia \(North Macedonia\). April 2018](#).²⁹

Aim of the mapping: Provides reliable presentation of the community structures and situation, as well as to give an overview and basic characteristics of the households in the Roma communities in terms of education, employment, health, housing, infrastructure and other socioeconomic characteristics. It delivers to relevant national institutions (Ministries, Agencies, CSOs) a reliable data on Roma communities and their situation in order to design better policies targeting the community as a whole, rather on focusing on individual level. It also brings information on the needs of the Roma communities under which National and EU funds should be allocated for programs and projects aiming at social inclusion of Roma in the society, at national and local level.

Targeted area: Roma settlements in 14 municipalities with summary of the socio-economic status and conditions of Roma in those municipalities. The municipalities have been chosen based on the highest distribution of Roma, in cooperation with the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, also taking into consideration the regional character of the distribution of Roma. The Municipalities targeted by the social mapping are: Tetovo, Prilep, Stip, Vinica, Strumica, Gostivar, Kumanovo, Kocani, Debar, Kavadarci, Shuto Orizari, Bitola, Kicevo, Veles. Around 90 % of the Roma population live in those municipalities.

The methodology combines qualitative participatory approach (Consultation meetings, individual and focus groups) and quantitative methods, based on representative probability sampling in order to provide more relevant insights on the situation of the Roma communities.

3.5 Republic of Moldova (partner country)

The last census refers to over 9000 Roma living in the Republic of Moldova, however unofficially there are over 100 000 (the discrepancy is due to historical reasons and slavery). A UNDP study carried out in regions inhabited preponderantly by Roma suggests that approximately 35% of Roma hold individual health insurance and that

²⁴ <https://www.rcc.int/romaintegration2020/docs/1/strategy-for-the-roma-2014--2020--former-yugoslav-republic-of-macedonia>

²⁵ COM (2017) 458 final

²⁶ Council for Regional Cooperation Integration of Roma 2020 and the Government of North Macedonia

²⁷ AECOM in coordination with the Delegation of the European Union Skopje along with the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy and the Cabinet of the Minister without Portfolio responsible for implementation of the Roma strategy, as final beneficiaries of the report.

²⁸ Project funded by the European Union and implemented by EPTISA in consortium with CARE, MCIC and the Roma Education Fund in partnership with the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy

²⁹ https://www.eurasia.undp.org/content/dam/rbec/docs/Factsheet_FYROM_Roma.pdf

58% are completely outside of the health insurance system. The participation rates of Roma at all levels of school are twice and sometimes three times less than the rates among non-Roma. Roma communities in the Republic of Moldova struggle with access to adequate housing, opportunities for decent employment and participation in public life. Discrimination and stigma towards Roma are widespread in society.

Roma issues have been considered by the state officially since 2001 following the first Governmental Decree approving a special Plan of Action on improving the situation of Roma. Today the Government has approved the Institute of Roma Community-based Mediators and there are over 31 Roma community mediators employed and active in around 30 communities. Along with other national minorities from the Republic of Moldova, Roma take part in the Ethno-Minority Council and participate in its activity. Main state institution that address the Roma issues on a **State level is the State Agency for Interethnic Relations (AIR)**.

The Strategy for the Consolidation of Interethnic Relations in the Republic of Moldova for 2017-2027 affirms the Government's determination to take adequate measures to ensure the protection of national minority rights in integrated and multilingual societies, based on respect for diversity. The Strategy aims at facilitating interethnic harmony, encouraging inclusive diversity of the Moldovan society by integrating national minorities into various spheres of state life, ensuring equality of citizens regardless of ethnic, cultural, linguistic identity etc., respecting national legislation and international standards.

The Roma Action Plan for 2016-2020, adopted by Decision of the Government nr.734 from 9 April 2016 complements existing regulatory framework for improving the situation of Roma. The Action Plan is to be financed from the State budget with eventual financial support from the European funds, technical assistance projects/programmes, public-private partnerships and other acceptable sources under the national legislation.

The State Agency for Interethnic Relations (AIR)³⁰ is responsible for the elaboration, promotion and implementation of public policies in the field of interethnic relations and functioning of languages spoken on the territory of the Republic of Moldova. The institution is responsible for the development of regulatory framework for the implementation of legislative and normative acts in the fields: 1. consolidation of interethnic relations; 2. development of intercultural dialogue and strengthening of civic identity; 3. functioning of languages and promotion of linguistic diversity.

3.6 Poland (partner country)

2002 census data: approximately 12 731 Roma live in Poland (0.034% of the population, 15 657 Romany mother tongue users)

2011 census data: 16 723 persons of Roma origin live in Poland (0, 043% of the population; 12 075 Romany mother tongue users)³¹.

Poland has already experimented with some of the strategy's solutions during a 3-year provincial pilot programme and intends to draw on the lessons learned. The state has had nationwide programmes for the Roma community in place since 2004.

A present long-term strategy reflects the priorities in the four key areas of education, employment, healthcare and housing. The Polish Ministry of Interior and Administration in the [Programme for the integration of the Roma community in Poland for the period 2014-2020](#) prepared a sort of mapping (page 62), based on the experiences of the former Roma strategy, realised in 2004-2013 (the governmental "Programme for Roma benefit for the period 2004-2013"). This map indicates the localities with Roma inhabitants - on the level of communes - where additional supporting actions should be continued in certain fields.

[The National Census of the population and housing 2001](#) provides data on the socio-economic characteristic of Roma communities (and all minorities) and allows to compare situations/trends with other minorities and the general population in areas of: placement (rural/urban), education, employment, economic activity, life expectancy and use of mother tongue (the English version of the data on Roma ethnic minority is in the Addendum to the report).

³⁰ <http://www.bri.gov.md/index.php?l=ro>

³¹ Although the census shows an increase in the Roma population, the number of Romany mother tongue users has decreased

Important sources of information are educational data, collected every year by the Ministry of Education – data concern pupils with national minority background for whom school organises (legal obligation) lessons devoted to the minority cultural tradition (history and geography of the country of origin and minority mother tongue lessons). The data allows to monitor the trend among pupils in minority education, mentioned above. In case of Roma pupils those additional educational activities are different (no history, geography and mother tongue lessons, activities like: Roma school assistants, support teachers, remedial courses, excursions, textbooks and others, according to the local and individual needs). At the same time the data allows to monitor the local authorities' engagement concerning minority education as the mechanism for data collection is linked with additional funds given to the local authorities (the approximate additional amount of financial resources given by state to local authorities for the education of minority pupils on the basis of the education data is almost twice bigger (approx. €4 mln/per year) than the annual amount for Roma strategy (approx. €2,3 mln). Detailed information on the number of Roma pupils in all levels of education, including enrolment into the special school system is in the Addendum.

The data collected allowed to highlight some main points: Roma in Poland are urban so territorial segregation is not an obstacle in accessing public services such as education – more efforts should be made by teachers, Roma school assistants, parents and Roma NGOs; Roma are a young population, Roma youth aged 0-19 make up 32.57% of the Roma population (in non-Roma population the figure is 21.35 %); the issue of lack of education and jobs will worsen without additional actions; shorter life expectancy: Roma aged 60+ make up only 7.74% of the total Roma population (in non-Roma population it is 19.77%); the level of education among Roma is dire as 91% of the Roma population in Poland less than secondary level education (half of them - not completed).

The new strategy for Roma 2014-2020 took into account the results of these findings and paid special attention to the development of activities to improve above mentioned points.

Poland has in its disposal significant data on Roma and therefore excellent information for a mapping project. The only obstacle seems to be the lack of human resources as the National Minority Division is the main actor in coordinating the Roma related activities.

3.7 Portugal (partner country)

[The Portuguese High Commission for Migration \(ACM\)](#) ³² has the mission to collaborate on determining, executing and assessing the public, transversal and sectorial policies concerning migration and integration of immigrants and ethnic groups, namely Roma communities. The High Commissioner chairs [the Advisory Council for the Integration of Roma Communities – CONCIG](#) ³³ which has the mission to follow and monitor the implementation of the [National Roma Community Integration Strategy \(ENICC\) 2013-2022](#) ³⁴. The ACM directly supervises and monitors the ENICC.

At the end of 2014, the [Observatory of Roma Communities \(ObCig\)](#) ³⁵ was created within the framework of the National Roma Communities Integration Strategy, in order to promote a definition of a solid diagnosis of this reality, taking into consideration the implementation of effective measures in the field.

The improvement of knowledge of Roma communities is part of the ObCig attributions, which aims to invest in the creation of cooperation, academic, scientific and institutional networks, as well as in the dialogue between academia and political decision makers.

The idea is to promote specific and in-depth knowledge of the reality of the Roma communities' life in Portugal, in order to combat existing myths and stereotypes still present in Portuguese society, which lead to situations of discrimination.

³² <https://www.acm.gov.pt/68>

³³ <https://www.acm.gov.pt/-/grupo-consultivo-para-a-integracao-das-comunidades-ciganas>

³⁴

https://www.acm.gov.pt/documents/10181/52642/Publicac%CC%A7a%CC%83o+ENICC_EN_bx.pdf/c129278c-86bc-4647-88e7-f362a61c56f1

³⁵ <https://www.obcig.acm.gov.pt>

In this sense, in 2018 the Observatory published a study on the housing situation of the itinerant Roma population in Portugal and in December 2019 will publish three further studies on one, on digital inclusion, impact of social measures such as Social Insertion Income and the special resettlement program. Held more than 50 training sessions, seminars and conferences for teachers, judges, lawyers, social workers, psychologists and other educational actors for knowledge of Roma culture and deconstruction of stereotypes and, in 2019, created the "integrating companies" award, which was given to a private company employing 11 Roma people. This award is intended to encourage private companies to hire Roma, naturalizing difference and fulfilling a fundamental human right: the right to work.

In December 2018 held the International Seminar "Empowering the Roma Population through Knowledge Production: the role of researchers, academics and civil society ", with Roma academics, policy makers, young Roma attending higher education and civil society actors from several non-governmental organizations and municipalities. The aim of the Seminar was to engage different social and political actors in dialogue and to contribute to making the Roma population positively visible in Portuguese society.

National Study on Roma Communities³⁶

The National Study on Roma Communities, financed by the High Commission for Migration and Technical Assistance Operational Programme and conducted by CEMRI-UAb (Center for Studies on Migration and Intercultural Relations, Aberta University) and CIES-IUL (Center for Research and Sociology Studies, University Institute of Lisbon), counted with the contribution of 149 municipalities, whose collaboration led to having access to crucial data regarding the Roma communities in Portugal. This study was concluded by the end of 2014 and launched in 20 January 2015. More than 24.000 Roma persons were contacted in half of the Portuguese municipalities in the course of the study.

We would like to highlight the following conclusions:

- 92% of respondents mentioned that all the members of their families have a family doctor from the National Health Service;
- The number of young people from the Roma Communities in the second and third educational cycle (6 and 9 years of school) has risen;
- 57,5% of respondents have children or grandchildren attending school;
- In terms of employment, 23% of respondents are self-employed and 15,8% are employees;
- 66,6% of respondents are living in conventional dwellings (apartments and houses) and 27,5% are living in more informal constructions, e.g. wood;
- More than 90% have permanent access to public water supply and electricity;
- 77,2% have regular relations with citizens from other communities.
- Regarding the women from Roma Communities this study mentioned that 45,5% are working at home, looking for a first job or unemployed.

In 2016, the Observatory of Roma Communities continued the "National Study on Roma Communities" applying the survey to the remaining municipalities in the country that had not responded. The continuity of the study was designated as – "Deepening of the National study on the Roma Communities, and 37.089 Portuguese Roma men and women living in Portugal, concluding that the Portuguese Roma population represents approximately 0.4% of the total population (compared to Portuguese residents 10,401,063) (Sousa & Moreira, 2017).

It was possible for the first time in the country's history to represent the entire territory, based on the data provided by the 308 municipalities (100% response rate to the questionnaire sent), in the period between April 2014 and March 2016.

36

<https://www.obcig.acm.gov.pt/documents/58622/201011/estudonacionalsobreascomunidadesciganas.pdf/89b05f10-9d1f-447b-af72-dac9419df91b>

The Strategy implementation: education³⁷

As part of the implementation of the Strategy, the Ministry of Education collected aggregated and anonymous national data on the schooling of Roma children and youth for the 2016/17 school year across the country. This data was collected by asking the school principals how many Roma children and young people attended them. These data showed that: 60% of the children who entered the first year of school had attended preschool education; 5879 children attended the first cycle (first 4 years of compulsory education), 3078 attended the second cycle (5th and 6th years of education); 1805 attended the 3rd cycle (7th, 8th and 9th grade) and 256 secondary school (10th, 11th and 12th grade). In view of the very small number of young people attending upper secondary education, showing a high dropout from 3rd cycle to secondary education, a policy measure has been taken: in the current academic year (2019/2020) 58 scholarships were awarded to encourage continuity of schooling in the framework of the so-called "Roma Educa" program. To increase the number of Roma students in tertiary education, in 2016 the Portuguese government initiated the OPRE Programme - Operational Programme for the Promotion of Education. In the current academic year (2019/2020) 33 scholarships were awarded.

Despite the small number of young people attending secondary school, it should be noted that 46% of these are girls and 54% boys, showing that almost as many girls as boys attending this school level.

3.8 Ukraine (partner country)

The last National Population Census, carried out in 2001, recorded 47 600 Roma inhabitants amounting to around 1 per cent of the total population. However, independent estimates suggest there may be between 200 000 and 400 000 Roma dispersed across the country, with the most numerous Roma communities situated in Zakarpattia, Odesa and Kharkiv regions. The next census was originally scheduled for 2011 but has been postponed several times and is now scheduled in 2020.

Roma are one of the most marginalized community in Ukraine and faces governmental and social discrimination daily. A major issue is the lack of personal documents, which prevents their access to social, educational, employment and medical and housing services. Today, many Roma in Ukraine have limited access to education. A recent survey (2018) indicates that 25% of Roma with one or more children had school-aged children not attending school. It is likely that illiteracy among young Roma is widespread, especially among those parents (and children) who engage in seasonal labour migration.

Roma are vulnerable to exclusion from the formal labour market. Due to the lack of education and personal documents as well as widespread racism, only a small number of them manage to secure low skilled, poorly paid jobs such as garbage collection, street cleaning and sewage maintenance. Other, less marginalized Roma have been successful in integrating into the construction sector in big towns. Unemployment among Roma is common: of the hundreds of Roma surveyed in 2018 by the Coalition 2020, about half were unemployed. In certain economically disadvantaged areas, such as rural or peri-urban areas in Zakarpattia region, the rate of unemployment in Roma communities was roughly estimated to be as high as 95 per cent.

There have been no comprehensive studies or assessments on the housing and living conditions of Roma across the whole of Ukraine. As an outcome of forced sedentarization of travellers during the Soviet era and the cumbersome housing procedures afterwards, there are numerous undocumented Roma houses where families are threatened with eviction or demolition of dwellings by the local authorities. Overall, access to adequate shelter and basic utilities is significantly more constrained among Ukraine's Roma population. According to the latest reports, the most challenging housing situation for Roma is in Odessa and, to an even greater extent, the Zakarpattia region. In some regions the situation is less acute. The mapping of the Roma population by one NGO in an area of the Kharkiv region revealed that services seemed to be relatively equitable and though there were cases of overcrowding, poor access to utilities and geographic isolation, these issues were also experienced by other non-Roma residents. (presentation attached in appendix). An increasing number of hate speech cases and violent anti-Roma attacks by far-right nationalists have been registered since 2018. Most of the perpetrators

³⁷ https://www.obcig.acm.gov.pt/documents/58622/209362/Newsletter_OBCIG_julho_2018.pdf/c7bf6eff-7006-4d4e-b7f0-26b19e44ab5b; and <http://www.dgeec.mec.pt/np4/906.html>

were not punished in accordance to the criminal law and violent attacks based on discrimination against Roma remain poorly investigated.

4. CONCLUSIONS, LESSONS LEARNT, GOOD PRACTICES AND FOLLOW-UP

4.1 Conclusions regarding the organisation of the CAHROM thematic visit

The discussions among the participants put forward the following points or questions: “Why do we do mapping?” It is not obvious, and it becomes difficult to know what the data behind mapping will be used for. In most cases, the objective is to decrease the vulnerability and social exclusion of the group we need data about, but such a mapping could also contribute to the prejudice that all Roma are poor.

It seems that geographical mapping of Roma communities *per se* is not justified and opens the door to security challenges if the information is communicated publicly. Therefore, **mapping of needs** (with size of target group) should be considered a priority rather than mapping of people (and their needs). The purpose of the mapping needs to be **clearly defined and communicated** – both for the actors involved in the mapping process and for the ‘mapped’ stakeholders. The process must be transparent and trusted; people need to be aware of the reason for the study and why they need to reveal their identities and problems. Stakeholders must feel safe. A suggestion is to reinstate such mapping under mainstream social exclusion and drop ethnicity data to avoid stigmatisation and misinterpretation. For example, some social exclusion surveys served the purpose of social support and developments in particular countries as shown in the table below³⁸. In the case of Hungary the purpose is more the policy planning and implementation than social support.

	FOCUS	PURPOSE
BG	Mapping of locations through social indicators (to identify Roma population/vulnerable groups)	Social support Monitoring of LA
CH	Living conditions of camp sites and transit zones provided by cantons for residence of Swiss Travellers	Development of infrastructure
ES	Geographical approach to housing and living conditions	Development of infrastructure
FR	1. Public: Living conditions there in the listed slums (not only French Roma) 2. NGO: Living conditions of mobile-home sites & regional policies	Development of infrastructure Policy analysis
GR	Mapping of settlements, camps and other areas to facilitate the planning of appropriate housing and social supporting interventions	Social support Development of infrastructure
HU	Vulnerability indicators to map settlements and segregated areas	Policy planning
IT	Vulnerability	Social support
LV	Public: Mapping of vulnerability and factors NGO: Geo mapping on the basis of census data	Social support Access to services Policy planning
ME	Vulnerability and locations	Child protection Monitoring of MDG implementation
PL	Areas at risk – higher % of Roma children in special educational institutions (PL average: 17%) Geographical: concentration of disadvantaged groups	Social support Education
PT	Composition & dynamics of Roma population	Communities at national level
RO	Poverty	Social support
RS	Geographical approach; non-standard settlements	Development of infrastructure
SK	Living conditions Territorial mapping through sociographic method	Development of infrastructure
SE	Vulnerability regarding rights of Roma (education, work, housing, social services)	Access to services Non-discrimination

4.2 General and country-specific conclusions and lessons learnt in relation to:

³⁸ CAHROM (2019)16 MAPPING OF ROMA AND TRAVELLER COMMUNITIES: A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE ON EUROPEAN PRACTICES, Document prepared by Dr Zora Popova for the Council of Europe

4.2.1 National practices IN RELATION TO SOCIAL AND/OR GEOGRAPHICAL MAPPING OF ROMA COMMUNITIES

Croatia

The implementation of the Baseline study in 2018 has contributed to initiating several successful practical steps in mapping of Roma communities. Activities that preceded the field research (regional discussions on the necessity of the research with the participation of Roma communities and representatives of Romani civil society organizations) strengthened the mutual cooperation between researchers and Roma communities and increased the trust between them. The large involvement of Roma, not only as respondents, but also as active participants/researchers in the survey implementation helped them recognize the research as an important prerequisite for any concrete action aiming at including and improving the situation in the Roma community. This contributed to the high response rate of 82%.

Georgia

The 2002 national census in Georgia indicated 472 Roma residents and the 2014 census, 604 Roma residents. However, the real number of the Roma population is probably much higher.

The first ever registered assessment of the Roma community in Georgia was implemented in 2008 and made available through a report by [the European Centre for Minority Issues](#)³⁹. According to the report, although accurate estimates are difficult to establish, the population is thought to number up to 1,500 persons, living in multiple small settlements across Georgia. Roma groups today are scattered across Georgia, with no one location holding a population of more than 300 people. In Tbilisi, where the largest community can be found, approximately 250-300 people live in rented apartments and homes in the Samgori district. Roma communities reside in some villages in the Kakheti region, Gatchiani district (Gardabani municipality), Kobuleti (Autonomous Republic of Ajara), Kutasi and in the town of Sukhumi (Georgian occupied region of Abkhazia) where the Georgian authorities don't exercise effective control.

Hungary

Based on a Government Decree of 2012 and by using the data of the 2011 census, the Central Statistical Office (CSO) of Hungary set up a national database of the segregated areas (as well as the areas threatened by segregation) in Hungary. A segregated area is by definition not linked to ethnicity but an area where the proportion of those with less than secondary education and those without regular income from employment is significant. Database and digital maps of segregated areas or areas threatened by segregation has been made for all settlements in Hungary. Besides, based also on the 2011 census data on ethnicity, in 2014 the Central Statistical Office (CSO) made an estimation and analyses on Roma population and its geographical location in Hungary. In addition to geographical mapping and study of the demographic data (e.g. age structure, aging index), the analyses also focused on school qualification, labour market situation and activity of the Roma population.

North Macedonia

The lack of data about Roma communities in the Republic of North Macedonia remains one of the main obstacles to conducting any thorough assessment on Roma communities' state of play in terms of improvements or worsening of their situation, identifying and measuring effects resulting from the implementation of policies, programmes and projects undertaken in the communities and interventions needed to be taken into consideration so that the communities are better off. Improving data about the living standards and conditions of Roma communities is an achievable goal that can have an immediate and long-term impact on projects, policies, and people. The support, resources, and independent data for such an effort exist. Without comprehensive data to evaluate government and donor efforts and guide policies, the situation of Roma is likely to remain dire.

Republic of Moldova

The first report that offered some data about the situation of Roma in Moldova was drafted by UNDP in 2007 and covered 4 main issues employment, education, health and housing. The first report on mapping Romani communities was also done by UNDP in 2013 with the aim to calculate the number of community mediators to be employed by the Moldovan Government.

³⁹ <https://www.ecmi.de/home/>

The main duties of community mediators aside from mediation are to collect information on Roma residents in the communities for instance number of men and women, children (ages 0-5 and 6-16 years), elderly people, Roma people with disabilities, number of employed Roma, how many receive social assistance and pensions, how many children go to school. The data collected is conveyed to town, social assistance and welfare offices, family doctors and schools.

Poland

It is essential to collect data at the national level and be able to have comparative data at the European level. In this respect the work of FRA would be highly useful. As data collection differs in various countries, combining different achievable data to get an overall picture of the situation of Roma is needed. However, to attain a reliable comparative analysis, the data collection should be comparable across the countries.

Portugal

The National Roma Communities Integration Strategy ENICC 2013-2020 is the first national plan specifically addressed towards Roma Communities. In 2018 the document was revised and adopted a new implementation period: 2018-2022. The National Study on Roma communities was financed by the High Commissioner for Migration and the European Social Fund. The implementation of the study was necessary and important since there is general lack of information on the geographical distribution and the socio-economic situation of Roma in Portugal.

Due to a legal constraint, Portugal does not collect data disaggregated by race or ethnic origin. Portugal can only compile statistical data on the racial and ethnic demographic composition of the population based on anonymous and voluntary self-identification.

Various studies were conducted by several organisations and researchers, namely with a view to obtaining information on population size and geographic distribution. Also had been collected data in the field by state entities and civil society organisations, on regional and local levels.

Nevertheless, in-depth knowledge of these communities is required if we wish to define and implement inclusive policies, leading to effective equality of opportunity and better living conditions, as the National Roma Communities Integration Strategy (ENICC) refers.

Satisfying this needs, in the frame of ENICC, were elaborated different studies in the past few years, in general and thematic level.

The first Roma-specific study was conducted in 2014, as above mentioned, and was based on a sample of 24 210 Roma individuals contacted by the researchers.

The Observatory of Roma Communities (OBCIG), an integrated research unit of the High Commission for Migration, completes the 2014 study and provides a mapping of Roma communities living in Portugal based on data collected from all 308 municipalities (100% of municipalities of continental Portugal, as well as the 30 municipalities in the autonomous regions of Madeira and Azores).

Nation-wide and Roma-specific studies were conducted, in particular in the field of housing and education.

In 2017 was elaborated a study by the Directorate-General of Education, which was approved by the National Commission for Data Protection, with some recommendations.

Also in the framework of the ENICC, was conducted a Roma-specific Study on the Characterisation of the Housing Conditions of Roma Communities Residing in Portugal, in 2016, by the Institute for Housing and Urban Rehabilitation (IHRU). It is based on data collected from all 308 municipalities. From the data obtained through this survey, there are at least 7,696 Roma families living in Portugal, consisting of 30 737 individuals and distributed in 7 456 households.

These studies are important, as give visibility to the Roma communities and opportunity to obtain more reliable information to support the design and monitoring of specific policies.

Ukraine

In 2013 the Strategy for Protection and Integration of the Roma National Minority into Ukrainian Society for the period up to 2020 and its Action Plan were adopted. Evaluations on the strategy remain quite sceptic. The document does not address strategic objectives, indicators or budget for its implementation. Roma were not consulted in the drafting of the Strategy and the lack of governmental initiatives on evaluation further hinders the dialogue between the state and Roma communities.⁴⁰ The Strategy is described as a declarative statement rather than a comprehensive policy document.

4.2.2. National practices and CONCRETE IMPACT of mapping IN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS AND DATA COLLECTION

In Georgia a pioneering overall assessment of the Roma community was done in 2008 by the Minority Rights Group and their consequent engagement with Roma communities. The Georgian authorities have started awareness-raising campaigns aimed at the Roma population, about their rights and obligations, education, state social programmes and services, domestic violence, early marriages, gender equality and women's rights among other topics.

In Hungary the segregation database and maps serve policy planning processes on local level. Local authorities should use the data of the segregation map to design their developments funded from all sources of funding (should it be EU or national source).

In North Macedonia the [“Thematic Evaluation of EU Support to Roma Communities and Roma Social Mapping”](#) and its recommendations aim to serve the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia and the Delegation of the EU in the North Republic of Macedonia in designing programs, projects and interventions for social inclusion. It should serve as a guidance to donors, municipalities, institutions for the needed investment and actions required in the field, for improving the Roma condition in the municipalities. Recommendations are structured on municipal and thematic level, so that they provide insight in which area in the municipality is needed to intervene.

In the Republic of Moldova the work of community mediators is crucial for updated data collection about the situation of Roma in different settlements.

In Poland there are three relatively efficient systems of Roma-related data collection: censuses (2001 & 2011), System of Educational Information and data from the realization of the three Roma strategies: 2001-2003 & 2004-2013 & 2014-2020.

In Portugal the Observatory of Roma Communities promote the realization and publications of studies on Roma communities and contribute to deconstruct myths, representations and / or stereotypes about the Roma communities in Portugal. ObCig contributes not only to the fulfillment of some of the measures intended within the Strategy, but also to the design, implementation and evaluation of the public policies in this domain. Thus it aims to become an engine for the creation of academic, scientific and institutional cooperation laws and regulations, as well as for the dialogue between the academy and the political decision makers.

In Ukraine Uzhhorod City authorities have established the Roma Coordinating Council, headed by the deputy mayor, composed by Roma deputies of the City Council and NGOs, to advance in its policies for Roma on local level. In 2017 the Uzhhorod city signed the Council of Europe's Declaration against anti-Gypsyism and hosted [the presidency in the Ukrainian Alliance of Cities and Regions for the Inclusion of Roma](#).⁴¹ in 2019. A key factor leading to exclusion, discrimination and unequal treatment of Roma in Ukraine is statistical and data invisibility. There is very little reliable, disaggregated data on the circumstances of the country's Roma as a whole. It is crucial that national and local authorities have access to reliable data about demographic composition, geographic distribution and the specific needs of the population in general, particularly Roma and other

⁴⁰ <https://www.osce.org/odihr/124494>

⁴¹ <http://www.roma-alliance.org/fr/page/296-deputy-mayor-of-uzhgorod-oleksandr-bylak-elected-new-chairperson-of-the-ukrainian-alliance.html>

minorities, to inform the development of effective and equitable policy making. This requires not only reliable data at a national level but also disaggregated data by locality, community and gender.

4.2.3 International practices IN RELATION TO SOCIAL AND/OR GEOGRAPHICAL MAPPING OF ROMA COMMUNITIES

The [2011 UNDP, World Bank and European Commission study](#)⁴² allowed for a comparative analysis between Roma and non-Roma and between member states. The survey collected basic socio-economic data on household, individual household members and perception data of selected adult members from each household. It provides statistical tables on a significant number of indicators.

The **2008 EU MIDIS I** survey was the first-ever major EU-wide survey on minorities' and migrants' experiences with discrimination and criminal victimisation. It provided, for the first time, robust empirical evidence in the form of comparable statistical data across EU Member States – an invaluable basis for solid assessments of the impact of legal and policy measures on the ground and for EU and member state efforts to improve their legal and policy responses. The second wave of this survey, conducted in 2015 and 2016, the **2016 EU MIDIS II** survey aimed to provide useful comparable data on the actual impact on the ground of EU and national anti-discrimination and equality legislation and policies. This can guide policy makers in developing more targeted legal and policy responses. These EU MIDIS surveys have about 85 indicators

Despite the challenges in generating extensive and complete data on the situation of Roma in Europe, most of the countries, including the FRA have an exhaustive record of data since 2004. One way to ensure the security of observed Roma population is to use ethnic identifiers and reporting multiple identities. Reaching full and representable data requires the implementation of custom surveys on Roma samples combined with territorial mapping and correlations between various data sources.

4.2.4 International practices CONCRETE IMPACT of mapping IN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS AND DATA COLLECTION

[URBACT](#)⁴³ is the European Territorial Cooperation programme aiming to foster sustainable integrated urban development in cities across Europe.

For example, the city of Bologna in Italy has been actively working in partnership with its Roma communities, to improve their situation in the city. The Municipality of Bologna was a partner of the URBACT network **Roma Net**, which aimed at overcoming negative attitudes towards Roma, developing the City Local Action Plan as framework for policies and activities targeting the Roma community and improving consultation and engagement with them. Later, Bologna also took part in **Roma Net II**, which focused on improving access to education, health, housing and services and stimulating employment opportunities for working age Roma.

In 2017, 23 cities all members of the EUROCITIES platform mapped Roma inclusion, in their cities taking into account domestic Roma, EU mobile citizens and non-EU citizens. The aim of the mapping is to identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats presented by the local action plan for Roma inclusion.

Mapping projects confirm known findings from numerous reports that Roma are more likely to be unemployed or have precarious jobs; suffer difficult housing conditions and encounter specific discrimination; **generally have high levels of poverty or are born into poverty**; are less likely to attend secondary or higher education; are at higher risk of certain health issues; can encounter obstacles in accessing basic services; are often unaware of the services available.

General recommendations:

⁴² <https://www.eurasia.undp.org/content/rbec/en/home/ourwork/sustainable-development/development-planning-and-inclusive-sustainable-growth/roma-in-central-and-southeast-europe/roma-data.html>

⁴³ <https://urbact.eu/>

- The discussions among the participants produced some useful recommendations to address the issue of inclusion.
- Roma face multiple, interrelated challenges that require an **integrated approach**;
- Newly-arrived Roma face a worse situation than domestic Roma, access to information should be made available in their language in written format and if required, orally;
- Engaging Roma in the design of the integration measure is key to building trust and confidence and to have an effective inclusion strategy. Local, regional and national authorities should hold consultations with members of the Roma community, both men and women;
- Roma integration begins at local level: inclusion strategies, targeted measures, dialogue with Roma;
- Roma inclusion strategies are mostly funded from municipal budgets and in this framework cities need better access to national and EU funding, more flexibility to tailor the funding to local needs and stricter monitoring of how the funds are used

The post-2020 approach should include cities as partners in Roma inclusion strategies.

An EU framework with an integrated approach needs to place priority on access of Roma to public services; Introduction of a multi-level governance mechanism;

4.3 Good practices identified at national and international levels

4.3.1 In Croatia, hosting country

[Roma inclusion in the Croatian Society: A Baseline Data Study](#)⁴⁴

The National Roma Inclusion Strategy (NRIS) 2013 – 2020 is a high-quality document covering several strategic areas (housing, health, education, employment, social care, political participation, statistical data), it is gender sensitive and has specific goals and indicators. The **Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities** commissioned an external evaluation of the NRIS in 2014-2015 which showed that 70% of measures were the responsibility of the Government office, but that there was lack of financial resources in the local communities, a lack of clarity of priorities and difficulties monitoring the implementation of the NRIS. In spite of the attention given to monitoring and evaluation in the NRIS, data collection system did not allow conclusions on progress and impact of measures implemented on realisation of NRIS goals and integration of Roma minority, as there were only 11 baseline values out of 111 needed. For that reason, a research started in 2017 with the general objective to define the baseline values for measuring the effectiveness of the National Roma Inclusion Strategy (NRIS) and the supporting Action Plan (NRIS AP) at the national, regional and local levels; and to define the needs of Roma communities as well as the obstacles to the Roma national minority's inclusion at the local, regional and national levels.

It was a mid-term project, starting with the documentation and relevant literature research as well as research of available data base sets. The study had two phases – pre-research and research itself – at the localities in Croatia where 30 or more Roma are living. The sample size was determined to 1500 households minimum, involving the key figures at municipality level, among who at least 2 out of 4 were to be Roma.

Mapping was part of Phase I which consisted of desk research; consultations with Roma informants/key figures about the localities and its population and collection of locality data (population template and community template). Mapping exercise included 15 counties, 134 localities, 4 599 households. The population estimation is 24 524 Roma of which 11 604 at the age of 16 and above

Main research that excluded the localities where Roma did not self-identify themselves as Roma – Phase II consisted of two sub phases: qualitative and quantitative. The quantitative part was carried out on a sample of 12 counties in the Republic of Croatia; 128 localities where 30 or more members of the Roma live in 4 139 households, in total 22 486 members of the Roma national minority, of which 10 422 at the age of 16 years or older. The qualitative part of the study was carried out with 281 respondents coming from relevant local and regional institutions and Roma population (67 semi-structured interviews has been conducted with recognized Roma communities during the mapping exercise).

⁴⁴ <https://pravamanjina.gov.hr/UserDocImages/dokumenti/Roma%20Inclusion%20in%20the%20Croatian%20Society%20-%20a%20Baseline%20Data%20Study.pdf>

Based on these mapping results it is visible that Roma population in Croatia is a young one and only 6,7% is older than 60. It has been also shown that **half of of the Roma population in Croatia is under aged, ie children!** 31% of Roma aged 3-6 attend pre-school, 54% of children aged 6 are involved in some form of the pre-school education. The results from the qualitative part of the study have shown that the prevailing reasons for children's non-involvement in pre-school education are of financial and spatial nature (pre-school is too expensive or there is no such service in the vicinity) but also of dominant social perception (Roma parents as well as general population in Croatia do not perceive pre-school education as part of children's right to education but rather as a service to employed parents). Elementary school is a key factor – 95% of Roma children in Croatia go to elementary school but 20 % go to Roma only classes, while 45% go to Roma classes in Medjimurje. The data have also shown that only 31.1% of young people aged 15-18 attend high school and that only 0.2 -0.4 per cent of Roma go to university.

The creation of a regularly updated **on-line platform** will enhance the annual monitoring system but also the development of long-term **evidence-based policy** in Croatia. At the same time, such a tool will help **to improve return on investment**. And finally, recent **ESF projects on education** in value of 1,5 mil HRK are based on the baseline study.

The Croatian **Ombudswoman Office** uses the data on Equality and on Roma to fight against discrimination and create public policies and laws. At the time of the thematic visit, a 2018 Report was in the Croatian Parliament for discussion. Citizens' perception of discrimination is important and this is how the Ombudswoman Office measures shifts in attitude/perceptions (2009, 2012, 2016), social distance, legal knowledge, perceptions of discrimination and personal experiences. For example, social distance was less pronounced in 2016 but it was still mainly towards Roma, who are still the most discriminated group in Croatia (20.2%). **Equality Data collection is a key measure of the strength of the implementation of anti-discrimination** policies and its collection is allowed based on specific exemption in all EU member states. The Ombudswoman Office concluded that the data in Croatia is not reliable and are few recommendations figure in the 2018 report: No 29 and No 30: to social and public administrative bodies to collect and process special categories of personal data, including those on ethnicity and national origin; to Ministry of Interior to develop methods of collecting ethnicity and national origin data with protection of their usage.

The independent department for national minorities of the Croatian **Ministry of Education** has developed two strategic documents (National strategy for Roma Inclusion 2013-2020 and the Operational program for national minorities 2017-2020) with the objective to include Roma children in the education cycle, prepare them for school, create equal chances, give access to secondary education, reduce prejudice towards Roma as well as explore and create a multicultural environment for children. Incentives for Roma parents and their children are: co-financing preschool education, additional lessons to learn the Croatian language, provision of extra-curricular activities; high-school scholarships; scholarships for university and literacy and first occupation trainings. Data collection in the Ministry of Education is done systematically and can be comprehensive or partial; it is a continuous collection of data with pseudonymisation of respondents. It is usually done with the help of the County Administrative office at the beginning and close of the school year (to monitor drop-outs), data synthesis are made at the county level and at education levels through schools (from pre-school, elementary education, secondary etc). Schools can provide such data in elementary education, in mixed classes with Roma pupils in order to monitor possible segregation. The same data is used to monitor drop-outs at the age of 15 which is the legal limit for obligatory schooling. 75% of Roma enter secondary education but mainly the educational programs lasting 3 years (technical schools), and the drop-out rate is monitored through the success rate of the pupils receiving scholarships. Today, 26 Roma are receiving such help. At the end of school year 2017/18, there were **6510** Roma pupils in the education system (from pre-school to secondary school), mostly in Sisak-Moslavina county, Koprivnicko-krizevacka county, Osjecko-baranjska county, Medjimurska county and Grad Zagreb. **6736** Roma pupils are expected to be enrolled in school during the next academic year. **A slight increase of children included in educational system** is visible, especially of those enrolled in secondary schools, but the data still does not show how many complete secondary education. This is going to be a continuous monitoring.

The Cooperation programme between UNICEF and the Croatian Government (2017-2021) tackles early development of children, including education; child protection, family support and children in judicial system; partnership with private and public sector and child protection platform. The objective is to help build evidence-based policies. Smart data demand, supply and usage will give better results for children, with cooperation with partners as the key component. Existing data are general, not fully segregated and sometimes in double (several

segments at the same time), constantly changing, therefore the interpretation of data needs to be presented in the proper context. UNICEF Recommendations to the Croatian government: based on the success of the **three programmes on inclusion into education for all** where Roma children were included for 2 years in pre-school as prescribed by the law, stronger cooperation should be built among local authorities, schools, kindergartens and parents. Multilevel intervention in the community should include training of teachers, investments into renovation of schools and kindergartens, investment into transport to school and meals in the school as well as awareness raising in the community. Roma parents were involved in the programme commissions, where Roma mediators played a major role. UNICEF can give long-term support to the community on several levels.

The visit to the **Kali Sara – Croatian Romani Union**, in the presence of a Croatian MP of Roma origin, Mr Veljko Kajtazi, showed a good practice of involving the Roma population in the implementation of the both phases of the survey, thus building trust in the community that data collected is accurate and will be used to develop relevant projects and policies to help the Roma community. The data enables to set indicators and provides statistics on the results, impact and achievements of existing policies and projects. In the words of Mr Kajtazi “since some of the Roma settlements are still seriously underdeveloped and look as if they are still in 18th or 19th century, effective policies are needed to help them”. As self-declaration is a powerful tool to make changes in the country; he will call on the Roma community to participate in great numbers in the future census to have an accurate number of the Roma population in Croatia and to make them visible.

4.3.2 Good practices identified in partner countries (Georgia, Hungary, Republic of Moldova, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal and Ukraine)

- **Georgia:**
 - *the European Centre for Minority Issues and the Norwegian Government started an initiative in 2008 to provide assistance in addressing some of the needs of Roma communities;*
 - *Since 2016 school-bus has been operating for Roma children in the village of Gachiani of Gardabani municipality for free;*
 - *Educational clubs in compact Roma settlements offering Georgian language classes;*
 - *Attendance of Roma children in public schools increased from 88 in 2015 to 289 in 2018;*
 - *Free judicial consultations;*
 - *Large-scale awareness raising campaigns on education, state social programmes and services, domestic violence, early marriages, gender equality, women’s rights etc.;*
 - *Creation of a working group on small and vulnerable ethnic minorities, including Roma which closely cooperates with civil society organisations working on Roma issues and with some Roma community representatives.*

- **Hungary:**
 - Use of segregation maps and regulations as a tool for development
 - Estimation of the Roma population based on census data
 - Local equal opportunity programs as local social inclusion strategies based on common indicator set and policy guidance
 - [“Healthcare Utilization and All-Cause Premature Mortality in Hungarian Segregated Roma Settlements: Evaluation of Specific Indicators in a Cross-Sectional Study”](#).⁴⁵ The article elaborates health indicators for adults living in **segregated Roma settlements (SRS)**. The study demonstrated that it is possible to compute the SRS-specific version of routine healthcare indicators without violating the protection of personal data by converting a sensitive ethical issue into a non-sensitive restricted-area geographical analysis. The article is appended.

- **North Macedonia**
 - [The Report on The Annual Implementation of the Public Policies for Roma Integration In the Republic of Macedonia for 2017 \(North Macedonia\)](#).⁴⁶
 - Recommendations from [The “Thematic Evaluation of EU Support to Roma Communities and Roma Social Mapping”](#).
 - The framework [of the IPA project “Local Integration of Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons and Minority Groups 2](#).

- **Republic of Moldova**
 - The Institute of Roma Community-Based Mediators which gathers data on Roma communities and delivers it when necessary to key institutions that provide services.

- **Poland**
 - The scope of the censuses in relation to the national minorities is prepared based on cooperation among minorities, statistic office and Ministry of Interior and Administration long before census (approx. 2 years before);
 - Detailed data on national and ethnic minorities’ education from kindergarten to secondary level , including Roma pupils in special schools – the latter data allows to monitor the trend of that negative phenomenon; it has diminished significantly last 5 years to approximately 9-10% in 2017 primary school level.

⁴⁵ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6163424/pdf/ijerph-15-01835.pdf>

⁴⁶

https://www.rcc.int/romaintegration2020/download/docs/FYROM_Progress%20Report%202017%20ENG.pdf/2aa48612cb7a89094bb0b81085adef37.pdf

- Regular monitoring and data collection of the measures within the National Roma Integration Strategy.
- **Portugal**
 - [The National Study on Roma Communities](#)⁴⁷
 - [The Observatory of Roma Communities \(ObCig\)](#)⁴⁸
 - [The Characterization of Housing Conditions of Roma Communities Residing in Portugal](#)⁴⁹
- **Ukraine**
 - The project “Social passport of the Romani community in Kharkiv” was implemented in partnership between a regional centre for social services, Roma NGOs and foundations. The places of compact residence of the Roma communities were identified, the main problems and needs of the Roma, the real status of access to various types of services (administrative, social, educational, medical, legal, etc.), the need for documentation (obtaining passports, birth certificates, Ukrainian citizenship. In order to form a social portrait of Romani families and individuals, a social passport was prepared. More information on the project is available in the appendix.
 - The establishment of the Roma Coordinating Council by the authorities of Uzhhorod City, its initiatives for Roma inclusion on at the local level and cooperation with Roma and non-Roma organizations.

4.3.3 Good practices identified at international level

Poland praised the European Fundamental Rights Agency’s (FRA) activity in collecting the measures of the National Roma Integration Strategies among the EU member states as a precious tool in data collection, although further efforts should be made to reconcile agreed definitions of the measures. Another good practice is the EUROCITIES mapping of Roma inclusion in 23 of its member cities which include domestic Roma, EU mobile citizens and non-EU citizens: [Mapping of the situation of Roma in cities in Europe \(2017\)](#)⁵⁰

The ad hoc working party ([FRA-Member States Roma integration Working Party](#)) brings a pool of knowledge and expertise on indicator development, data collection, monitoring, and statistical analysis of Roma integration.

4.4 Envisaged short-term and mid-term follow-up

4.4.1 At the level of CAHROM and the Council of Europe in general

The report will be included on the agenda of the 18th CAHROM Plenary meeting in Strasbourg on 28-31 October 2019. Some good practices on Mapping being used as a tool for development of the evidence-based plans and policies, mentioned by the EUROCITIES, could be included into the Council of Europe’s database on good practices for Roma inclusion. The Secretariat will also consider the preparation on an amendment to the document CAHROM(2019)16 on Mapping of Roma in the CoE’s member states including new information received / to be received from the CAHROM members where Poland suggests to include systemic efforts to collect data among CoE member states, with a special focus on education data.

⁴⁷

<https://www.obcig.acm.gov.pt/documents/58622/201011/estudonacionalsobreascomunidadesciganas.pdf/89b05f10-9d1f-447b-af72-dac9419df91b>

⁴⁸ <https://www.obcig.acm.gov.pt/>

⁴⁹

http://www.portaldahabitacao.pt/opencms/export/sites/porta1/pt/porta1/publicacoes/documentos/caraterizacao_condicoes_habitacao.pdf

⁵⁰ <http://www.euocities.eu/euocities/documents/EUROCITIES-report-maps-the-situation-of-Roma-in-cities-in-Europe-WSPO-AS8CQ2>

4.4.2 At the level of Croatia, hosting country

Future activities by the Croatian Bureau of Statistics comprise usage of administrative data to monitor demographic statistics on annual basis; organisation of the statistical registry of population; plan to prepare the questionnaire in minority languages for internet census as well. The Croatian Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities would like to include the findings on mapping prepared by Dr Zora Popova, ECMI researcher, in the CAHROM document.

4.4.3 At the level of partner countries

Several follow-up actions are foreseen in partner countries. For example, **Hungary** is envisioning an adoption of a new system, called Local equal opportunity program after the introduction of data on segregation localities in the country. **Equal Opportunity Programs (EOPs)** provide for measures aimed primarily at women, those living in extreme poverty, the Roma, the elderly, the disabled and children. EOPs will have a predefined structure, compatible with the large sample surveys system- NSIS and HCSO. In **North Macedonia**, a document “Thematic Evaluation of EU Support to Roma Communities and Roma Social Mapping “and its recommendations aim to serve the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia and the Delegation of the EU in designing programs, projects and interventions for social inclusion. It should serve as a guidance to donors, municipalities, institutions for the needed investment and actions required in the field, for improving the Roma condition in the municipalities. Although significant data is publicly accessible in **Poland**, the preparation of one tool, aggregating all existing data, would nonetheless be useful for future activities at both national and local level; such a recommendation was directed to the relevant agency, responsible for the national minorities’ policy.

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: [Official invitation letter received from the Croatian authorities](#)

Appendix 2: [Programme](#)

Appendix 3: [List of experts and participants](#)

Appendix 4: [Mapping of Roma and Traveller Communities: A comparative perspective on European practices – document prepared by Dr Zora Popova, European Centre for Minority Issues \(ECMI\) expert](#)