

INTERCULTURAL APPROACH TO ROMA AND TRAVELLERS INCLUSION FOR THE LOCAL LEVEL

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MUNICIPALITY OF BEROVO AND THE ROMA COMMUNITY

ОСТИВАР



Identical distance from three airports (in the heart of the Balkans)

Macedonians are 91% (9925), Roma are 3% (459), 6% (other) <u>Area 595 km2</u>, 800 m average altitude

The average annual temperature is 11.1 ° C

БИТОЛ/

Eight settlements from 700 to 2000 inhabitants

According to the last census in 2021, the Municipality of Berovo has <u>10,890</u> inhabitants.

Municipality of

Berovo

БЕРОВО

The structure of the population of Berovo is <u>50.02% men and</u> <u>49.98% women</u>, with a total of 4,143 households, with an average number of 2,6 members per household.

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The development potentials of the municipality are <u>tourism</u>, <u>small</u>, <u>light and non-</u><u>polluting food industry</u> and sustainable use of <u>forest resources</u>,.



<u>Municipality of Berovo and the Roma community</u>

Roma citizens mostly live in the city of Berovo.

- unemployment and poverty have been identified as key priorities
- housing and providing adequate living conditions.
- The challenges are even greater given the structure of the local economy as well as the future potential.





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80 Roma people are employed,

150 unemployed Roma are registered.

68 families are beneficiaries of social financial assistance.

12 people are employed in institutions at the local level





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Promoting / Supporting Roma employment

Projects for training, self-employment and inclusion

"From the citizens to the community and from the community to the citizens"

"From Action to Equal Opportunities", 11 unemployed Roma people are engaged for about 130 final beneficiaries of the Roma community, in four areas: care for the elderly and infirm, medical animators, care for children with disabilities and music associates.

"Equal Opportunities" 11 unemployed people are engaged for about 150 final beneficiaries, in four areas: Home for the elderly, Facilitator for health information in the Roma population, Caregiver for the elderly, Caregiver for a person with a disability.

"For our Berovo" additionally 2 more people from the Roma community are engaged.

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Basic access to housing in the municipality

- The Roma population in Berovo live in individual residential buildings (houses).
- In the Roma settlement is about 130 houses connected to the infrastructure
- It is necessary to constantly improve the infrastructure



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Basic access to housing in the municipality

"Stip and Berovo together for improving the living conditions for the Roma community", call EuropeAid / 168111 / DD / ACT / MK -EU for Roma and citizens living in poverty "

- The most important activities are:
- Expansion of the DUP and GUP of 15 hectares in the Roma settlement
- Legalization of illegally houses
- Rehabilitation and reconstruction of 15 houses of Roma families
- Reconstruction of a street in the Roma settlement;
- 7 families connected to the water supply system;
- 4 families are connected to the electricity system;
- Distributed 120 waste bins for each family in the Roma settlement





LEVEL OF TRUST BETWEEN LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND ROMA COMMUNITIES (DECISION MAKING, IMPLEMENTATION AND COOPERATION)

- In the Municipality of Berovo for several years, it is organize joint meetings and meetings through specially formed joint groups
- Institutional Working Group (IWG)
- **Municipal Working Group** (MWG) which includes representatives of the Roma community.

Local Action Group (LAG)

- meetings between the head of departments in the administration , the members of LAG **involvement of decision makers (Mayor, managers...)**,
- issues such as housing, inclusion of children, subsidizing water supply and sewerage infrastructure problems with the construction of water supply lines, streets, household electrical network connection.

The Municipality of Berovo and the members of the local community prepared the JOINT ACTION PLAN and COVID ACTION PLAN.



THE SITUATION WITH THE EDUCATION OF ROMA CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The situation with the education of Roma children and youth.

The educational status is at a high level and with significant progress. On the territory of the municipality of Berovo there is **one Kindergarten**, **two primary schools** and **one municipal high school**.

Within the project Inclusion of Roma children in preschool education in the school year 2021/2022 in the kindergarten "23 August-Berovo" 18 children are included.

In the municipal primary school "Dedo Iljo Maleshevski" Berovo,, 10% or 66 students are from the Roma community.

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The situation with the education of Roma children and youth.

In the **high school**, out of a total of 349 students, **29 are Roma**. Roma students are enrolled in secondary **vocational education**. **14 students take scholarships** awarded by the Ministry of Education and Science.

In the period from 2008 to 2017, about 67 people additionality have completed secondary education.

During 2020, a large number of Roma children in primary and secondary education were not able to attend classes due to the fact that they did not have devices or did not have internet in their homes.

support educational process, (tablets in order to be fully included in on-line education during a pandemic).

Financial support for the best Roma student in the primary and high school.

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The strategy for interethnic integration in the education and youth activism of the Municipality of Berovo was adopted by the Council of the Municipality of Berovo. Together with the Interethnic Integration of Youth in Education Project Team, the youth action was realized and supported by the Municipality of Berovo. 8 (eight) benches are provided



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Thank you !

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